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<p>(54) Title: TREATING RETINAL NEURONAL DISORDERS BY THE APPLICATION OF INSULIN-LIKE GROWTH FACTORS AND ANALOGS</p> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>Disclosed is a method for promoting retinal neuronal survival in a mammal, wherein the neuronal cells are at risk of dying. The method comprises administering to the mammal an effective dose of at least one of the following substances: IGF-I; a functional derivative of IGF-I; IGF-II; or a functional derivative of IGF-II.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">BEST AVAILABLE COPY</p>		

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TREATING RETINAL NEURONAL DISORDERS BY THE APPLICATION OF
INSULIN-LIKE GROWTH FACTORS AND ANALOGS

Background of the Invention

5 The field of the invention is retinal neuronal disorders.

 Insulin-like growth factors (IGFs) have been identified in various animal species as polypeptides that act to stimulate growth of cells in a variety of tissues
10 (Baxter et al., 1988, Comp. Biochem. Physiol. 91B:229-235; Daughaday et al., 1989, Endocrine Rev. 10: 68-91), particularly during development (D'Ercole, 1987, J. Devel. Physiol. 9:481-495). The IGFs, each of which has a molecular weight of about 7,500 daltons, are chemically
15 related to human proinsulin: i.e. they possess A and B domains that (1) are highly homologous to the corresponding domains of proinsulin, and (2) are connected by a smaller and unrelated C domain. A carboxyterminal extension, the D domain, is also present
20 in IGFs but is not found in proinsulin. Functional homologies between the IGFs and insulin also exist. Like insulin, IGFs stimulate phosphorylation of specific tyrosine residues within the cytoplasmic domain of the receptors to which they bind.

25 Using peptide specific antibodies as probes, IGF-I and IGF-II (sometimes respectively termed "somatomedin C" and "somatomedin A") have been found in a variety of tissues, including the mammalian central nervous system (CNS); the presence of mRNAs encoding these polypeptides
30 in the CNS suggests local synthesis in the CNS (Baskin et al., 1988, TINS 11:107-111). In addition, IGF-III [or "brain IGF", or IGF-I(4-70)], a truncated form of IGF-I lacking the latter protein's three N-terminal amino acid residues, has been found in fetal and adult human brain

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(Sara et al., 1986, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 83:4904-4907) as well as in colostrum (Francis et al., 1988, Biochem. J. 251:95-103).

IGF receptors have been isolated from peripheral
5 tissues as well as from brain tissue (Waldbillig, R.J. et al., 1988, Exp. Eye Res. 47:587-607; Massague, J. and M.P. Czech. 1982, J. Biol. Chem. 257:5038-5045; Rechler, M.M. and S.P. Nissley, 1985, Ann. Rev. Physiol. 47:425-442). The receptors found in the cell membrane are
10 either dimers, comprised of one alpha and one beta subunit, or heterotetramers, comprised of two alpha/beta subunit pairs. Although IGFs bind to the dimeric form of the receptor, functional activation occurs only upon binding to the heterotetrameric species (Tollefsen, S.E.
15 et al., 1991, Biochemistry. 30:48-54). IGF receptors isolated from peripheral and brain tissue differ in the molecular weights of their alpha subunits (Waldbillig, R.J. et al., 1988, Exp. Eye Res. 47:587-607), and even within brain tissue, IGF receptors isolated from neuronal
20 cells are different to those isolated from glial cells (Burgess, S.K. et al., 1987, J. Biol. Chem. 262:1618-1622). Whether these differences reflect altered functional or binding specificities is not known. Finally, European Patent Application No. 86850417.6
25 describes evidence for a another type of IGF receptor located in human fetal membranes.

IGF-I and IGF-II appear to exert a stimulatory effect on development or proliferation of a wide range of susceptible cell types (Daughaday et al., *Supra*).
30 Treatment with IGFs, or with certain polypeptide fragments thereof, has been variously suggested as a bone repair and replacement therapy (European Patent Application No. 88303855.6), as a means to counteract certain harmful side effects of carcinostatic drugs
35 (Japanese Patent Application No. 63196524), and as a way

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to increase lactation and meat production in cattle and other farm animals (Larsen et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,783,524). The effects of IGF on cells obtained from various parts of the CNS, and from the peripheral nervous system has been studied (Aizenman et al., 1987, Brain Res. 406:32-42; Fellows et al., 1987, Soc. Neurosci. Abstr. 13:1615; Onifer et al., 1987, Soc. Neurosci. Abstr. 13:1615; European Patent Application No. 86850417.6; Bothwell 1982, J. Neurosci. Res. 8:225-231; Recio-Pinto et al., 1986, J. Neurosci. 6:1211-1219). In addition, the IGFs have been shown to affect the development of undifferentiated neuronal-like cells: When IGFs were added to the growth medium of human neuroblastoma tumor cells, these cells were observed to extend neurites and to undergo mitosis (Recio-Pinto and Ishii, 1988, J. Neurosci. Res. 19:312-320; Mattson et al., 1986, J. Cell Biol. 102:1949-1954).

Within nervous tissue, IGFs have been shown to induce glial cell enzyme activities (McMorris et al., 1985, J. Neurochem. 44:1242-1251), to induce differentiation and development of oligodendrocytes (McMorris and Dubois-Dalcq, 1988, Neurosci. Res. 21:199-209), and to support embryonic brain cell proliferation, development and neurite outgrowth (Neilsen, F. and S. Gammeltoft, 1990, FEBS Letters 262:142-144; Svrzic and Schubert, 1990, Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm. 172:54-60; Torres-Alwman, et al., 1990, Neuroscience 35:601-608; Recio-Pinto et al., 1986, J. Neurosci. 6:1211-1219).

IGFs have been found in both the developing and adult eye in the aqueous (Tripathi et al., 1991, Dev. Drug Res. 22:1-23) and vitreous humor (Grant et al., 1991, Diabetes 35:416-420). Autoradiographic studies using iodinated peptides revealed IGF binding sites within the uveal tract, choroid, lens, sclera and retina (Bassas, et al., 1989, Endocrinology 125:1255-2320;

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Bassnett and Beebe, 1990, Invest. Ophthalmol. Vis. Sci. 31:1637-1643; Waldbillig, et al., 1990, Invest. Ophthalmol. Vis. Sci. 31:1015-1022). In the adult retina, IGF-I binding sites appear to be specifically localized to the nuclear layers, and the photoreceptor regions, including the rod outer segments (Ocrant, et al., 1989, Endocrinology 125:2407-2413; Waldbillig, et al., 1988, Exp. Eye. Res. 47:587-607; Zick et al., 1987, J. Biol. Chem. 262:10259-10264), whereas proteins immunologically related to IGF-II receptors have been demonstrated in the retinal pigment epithelium (Ocrant et al., 1989, Endocrinology 125:2407-2413). IGF-I and IGF-II mRNA levels are highest within the retina of the eye (Danias and Stylianopoulou 1990, Curr. Eye Res. 9:379-386). However, the function of IGFs in the eye is unknown and the IGF binding sites in the retina have not been fully characterized. Therefore, it is not yet known whether these sites actually function as IGF receptors, i.e. whether they mediate a biological response.

It has been speculated, based upon results establishing that IGF-I affects the permeability of membranes for potassium (Beebe et al., 1986, Prog. Dev. Biol. Part A: 365-369; Parmelee and Beebe, 1988, J. Cell Phys. 134: 491-496) and that outer and inner rod segments contain IGF binding sites (Waldbillig et al., 1988, Exp. Eye. Res. 47:587-607; Zick et al., 1987, J. Biol. Chem. 262:10259-10264), that IGF-I might be involved in light transduction.

With regard to diabetic retinopathy, where the major pathological finding in the eye is neovascularization, King et al. (1985, J. Clin. Invest. 75:1028-1036) state that "In the present study, we have characterized the receptors and the growth promoting effect of insulin-like growth factor (IGF-I) and multiplication-stimulating activity (MSA, and IGF-II) on

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endothelial cells and pericytes from calf retinal capillaries and on endothelial and smooth muscle cells from calf aorta., " and, "These data show that vascular cells have insulin and IGF receptors but have a
5 differential response to these hormones. These differences in biological response between cells from retinal capillaries and large arteries could provide clues to understanding the pathogenesis of diabetic micro-and macroangiopathy". In addition, Grant et al.
10 (1986, Diabetes 35:416-420) state that " The concentrations of IGF-I in the vitreous of most diabetic subjects with severe neovascularization are thus in the range known to stimulate cellular differentiation and growth in several systems. Whether they do so in the
15 eye, and thus contribute to the development of retinopathy, remains to be determined".

Summary of the Invention

In one aspect, the invention features a method of enhancing the survival of retinal neuronal cells at risk
20 of dying in a mammal, by administering to the mammal an effective dose of at least one of the following substances: IGF-I; a functional derivative of IGF-I; IGF-II; or a functional derivative of IGF-II.

In preferred embodiments, where there is
25 administered IGF-I, IGF-II, or a functional derivative of IGF-I or IGF-II, the method further comprises administering to the mammal an effective amount of a substance which produces an additive and/or synergistic effect. A combination of two or more of the substances,
30 which act synergistically, can be administered to the mammal, or a combination of two or more of the substances, which act additively, can be administered to the mammal.

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In other preferred embodiments, the retinal neuronal cells are photoreceptor cells, amacrine cells, horizontal cells, bipolar cells, or ganglion cells.

In yet other preferred embodiments, the method is used in a therapeutic context for the treatment of retinal neuronal tissues which are suffering from the effects of injury, aging and/or disease, wherein the term injury is a broad term which includes, but is not limited to, injury resulting in retinal degeneration, such as photodegeneration, trauma, axotomy, neurotoxic-excitatory degeneration or ischemic neuronal degeneration, and wherein the term disease is a broad term which includes, but is not limited to, any infectious or non-infectious disease such as inherited retinal dystrophy, diabetic retinopathy, Alzheimer's disease, infantile malignant osteopetrosis, ceroid-lipofuscosis or cholestasis.

In preferred embodiments, wherein a functional derivative of IGF-I is administered, IGF-I(4-70) (SEQ ID NO:2), also known as IGF-III or brain IGF, is the preferred IGF-I derivative. Where a functional derivative of IGF-II is administered, IGF-II(54-67) (SEQ ID NO:13) is the preferred IGF-II derivative. The substances can also be administered in conjunction with neurotransmitter enhancers and/or their derivatives.

IGF-I, IGF-II, or functional derivatives thereof administered in methods of the invention may be chemically modified in such a way as to increase its efficacy, e.g., by increasing the transport of these polypeptides across the blood-retina barrier, e.g., by modifications of the polypeptide that increase lipophilicity, alter glycosylation, or increase net positive charge.

The invention also features a composition comprising a solution containing IGF-I or IGF-II, or a functional derivative thereof, e.g., IGF-I(4-70) (SEQ ID

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NO:2), or IGF-II (54-67) (SEQ ID NO:13), with excipients for ophthalmic administration, contained within a chemically inert vessel which is closed at one end with a dropper or other device for the transfer of drops of the solution from the vessel to the eye of the recipient of the solution. The invention also features a composition comprising a solution containing IGF-I or IGF-II, or a functional derivative thereof, e.g., IGF-I(4-70) (SEQ ID NO:2), or IGF-II (54-67) (SEQ ID NO:13), with excipients for ophthalmic administration, contained within a chemically inert vessel, e.g., an implant, e.g., an implanted disk, which is implanted into a recipient for the transfer of the solution from the implant to the eye of the recipient.

15 The invention features a composition comprising an ointment containing IGF-I or IGF-II, or a functional derivative thereof, e.g., IGF-I(4-70) (SEQ ID NO:2), or IGF-II (54-67) (SEQ ID NO:13), with excipients for ophthalmic administration.

20 As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention, the functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CALLETYCATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:17, the amino acid sequence
25 CTYCATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:57), the amino acid sequence CEPYCAPPKSEC (SEQ ID NO:58), and the amino acid sequence CTYCAPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:59), wherein the N-terminal cysteine is connected to the C-terminal cysteine by a covalent bond.

30 As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention the functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CALLETdYCATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:47), the amino acid sequence
35 CTdYCATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:48), and the amino acid sequence

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CTDYCAPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:49), wherein the N-terminal cysteine is connected to the C-terminal cysteine by a covalent bond.

As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention the functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CTYTAPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:60), the amino acid sequence CALLETYATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:61), the amino acid sequence CRRLEMYCAPLKPAKSAC (SEQ ID NO:62), the amino acid sequence CGYGSSRRAPQTC (SEQ ID NO:63), the amino acid sequence CYFNKPTGYGC (SEQ ID NO:64), the amino acid sequence CYFNKPTGYGSSRRAPQTC (SEQ ID NO:65), and the amino acid sequence CKPTGYGSSSRC (SEQ ID NO:66), wherein the N-terminal cysteine is connected to the C-terminal cysteine by a covalent bond.

As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention, the functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CDLRRLEMYC (SEQ ID NO:19), the amino acid sequence CCFRSCDLRRLEMYC (SEQ ID NO:20), the amino acid sequence CCFRSC (SEQ ID NO:22), and the amino acid sequence CFRSC (SEQ ID NO:23), wherein said peptide is cyclized by a covalent bond between two residues of said peptide.

As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention the functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence TYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:68), and the amino acid sequence RRLEMYCAPLKPAKSA (SEQ ID NO:67). The residues flanking the amino acid sequence can be homologous to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-I, or to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-II.

As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention, the functional derivative is a substantially

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pure cyclized peptide consisting essentially of the amino acid sequences CGCELVDALQFVC (SEQ ID NO:18) and CCFRSCDLRRLEMYC (SEQ ID NO:20), wherein said cyclized peptide comprises at least one covalent bond between two 5 residues of said cyclized peptide.

As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention, the functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CGCELVDALQFVC 10 (SEQ ID NO:18), the amino acid sequence CDLRRLEMYCCPLKPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:21), the amino acid sequence CGPETLC (SEQ ID NO:26), the amino acid sequence CGYGSSRRCPQTGIVDEC (SEQ ID NO:27), the amino acid sequence CGDRGFYFNKPTC (SEQ ID NO:28), the amino acid 15 sequence CCPLKPAKSAC (SEQ ID NO:29), and the amino acid sequence CDLRRLEMYAPLKPAKSAC (SEQ ID NO:30), wherein the N-terminal cysteine is connected to the C-terminal cysteine by a covalent bond.

As a preferred embodiment to the method of the 20 invention, the functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CGGELVDTLQFVC (SEQ ID NO:32), the amino acid sequence CCFRSCDDLALLETYC (SEQ ID NO:34), wherein said peptide is cyclized by a covalent bond 25 between two residues of said peptide. Preferably, the residues flanking the amino acid sequence are homologous to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-I, or to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-II.

As a preferred embodiment to the method of the 30 invention, the functional derivative is a substantially pure cyclized peptide consisting essentially of the amino acid sequences CGGELVDTLQFVC (SEQ ID NO:32) and CCFRSCDLCLLETYC (SEQ ID NO:39), wherein said cyclized peptide comprises at least one covalent bond between two 35 residues of said cyclized peptide.

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As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention, the functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CDLCLLETYC
5 (SEQ ID NO:33), the amino acid sequence CDLCLLETYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:35), the amino acid sequence CCYRPSETLC (SEQ ID NO:40), CRPCSRVSRRSRGIVEEC (SEQ ID NO:41), CGDRGFYFSRPC (SEQ ID NO:42), CCTPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:43), and CDLCLLETATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:44), wherein the N-
10 terminal cysteine is connected to the C-terminal cysteine by a covalent bond.

As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention, the functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the
15 group consisting of the amino acid sequence CATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:53), YCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:54), YCAPA (SEQ ID NO:55), TYCAPA (SEQ ID NO:56), CAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:24), EALLETYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:36), and APSTCEYKA (SEQ ID NO:38).

20 As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention the functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence YFNKPTGYGSSSRRAPQT (SEQ ID NO:3), the amino acid sequence GYGSSSRRAPQT (SEQ ID NO:4), the amino
25 acid sequence APLKPAKSA (SEQ ID NO:5), the amino acid sequence YFNKPTGYG (SEQ ID NO:6), the amino acid sequence SSSRRAPQT (SEQ ID NO:10), the amino acid sequence PTGYGSSSRRAPQT (SEQ ID NO:11), and the amino acid sequence KPTGYGSSSR (SEQ ID NO:12). Preferably, the
30 residues flanking the amino acid sequence are homologous to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-I, or to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-II.

As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention, the functional derivative is a substantially
35 pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the

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group consisting of the amino acid sequence
YFNKPTGYGSSRRAPQT-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO:7), the amino acid
sequence SSSRRAPQT-NH₂, the amino acid sequence
GIVDECC(Acm)FRSCLDRRL-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO:9), the amino acid
5 sequence EPYCAPPKSE (SEQ ID NO:69), the amino acid
sequence TYCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:70), the amino acid
sequence ALLETYSATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:71), the amino acid
sequence ETQCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:72), and the amino acid
sequence GAELVDALQFYSGDRGFYFNKPTG (SEQ ID NO:73).

10 As a preferred embodiment to the method of the
invention, the functional derivative is a substantially
pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the
group consisting of the amino acid sequence
ALLETdYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:45), the amino acid sequence
15 TdYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:46), and the amino acid sequence
TdYCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:50).

As a preferred embodiment to the method of the
invention, the functional derivative is a substantially
pure peptide selected from the group consisting of the
20 amino acid sequence ALLETYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:13), the
amino acid sequence TPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:14), and the amino
acid sequence SRVSRRSR (SEQ ID NO:15).

As a additional embodiment, the functional
derivative contains between 5 and 40 amino acids,
25 preferably 6-25 amino acids. The functional derivative
can be iodinated.

The functional derivative can also be a cyclic
peptide, the cyclic peptide consisting essentially of 5-
40 amino acid residues, or 6-25 amino acid residues.
30 Preferably the cyclic peptide includes a fragment of the
respective IGF-I, IGF-II, or IGF-III as at least a
portion of its amino acid sequence. The cyclic peptide
can include a disulfide bond between two cysteines of the
peptide, the cysteines being located at either terminal
35 or internal positions of the peptide. Alternatively or

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in addition to the disulfide bond, the cyclic peptide may include an amide bond between the amino and carboxyl ends of the peptide. Preferred cyclic peptides include, but are not limited to, those derived by cyclization, e.g.,
5 by disulfide bond formation or by amide bond formation.

As a preferred embodiment to the method of the invention, the functional derivative is a retro-inverso peptide, preferably a retro-inverso peptide that is homologous to IGF-I, or a fragment thereof, or a retro-
10 inverso peptide that is homologous to IGF-II, or a fragment thereof. A "retro-inverso peptide", as used herein, refers to a peptide with a reversal of the direction of the peptide bond at at least one position, i.e., a reversal of the amino- and carboxy- termini with
15 respect to the side chain of the amino acid. Retro-inverso peptides may contain L-amino acids or D-amino acids, or a mixture of L-amino acids and D-amino acids.

The functional derivative can also be a scrambled peptide. A "scrambled peptide", as used herein, is a
20 peptide that contains the same residues of the naturally occurring peptide or a functional derivative thereof, but where the sequence of the residues has been rearranged.

With respect to any of the IGF-I or IGF-II peptides listed herein, most preferred are linear and
25 cyclic peptides that contain at least one cysteine residue that is not involved in disulphide bond formation. In some cases where a naturally-occurring alanine has been changed to a cysteine, the invention embodies both the peptide containing the naturally-
30 occurring alanine, which has at least partial activity, as well as the peptide containing the substituted cysteine, which has the preferred activity.

"Homologous" refers to the sequence similarity between two polypeptide molecules or between two nucleic
35 acid molecules. When a position in both of the two

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compared sequences is occupied by the same base or amino acid monomeric subunit, e.g., if a position in each of two polypeptide molecules is occupied by leucine, then the molecules are homologous at that position. The
5 homology between two sequences is a function of the number of matching or homologous positions shared by the two sequences. For example, 6 of 10, of the positions in two sequences are matched or homologous then the two sequences are 60% homologous. By way of example, the
10 amino acid sequences Leu-gly-val-ala-gly-pro and Leu-his-tyr-ala-gly-leu share 50% homology.

In addition to substantially full-length polypeptides, the invention also includes fragments of the IGF-I, IGF-II, or IGF-III polypeptides. As used
15 herein, the term "fragment", as applied to a polypeptide, will ordinarily be at least about 5 contiguous amino acids, typically at least about 20 contiguous amino acids, usually at least about 40 contiguous amino acids, and preferably at least about 60 or more contiguous amino
20 acids in length. Fragments of IGF I, II, or III can be generated by methods known to those skilled in the art.

In a final aspect, the invention includes a substantially pure peptide, the peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino
25 acid sequence ALLETYSATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:71), the amino acid sequence ETQCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:72), and the amino acid sequence GAELVDALQFYSGDRGFYFNKPTG (SEQ ID NO:73). Any of the peptides of the invention may be iodinated.

The peptides described herein are provided as
30 examples, and are not to be construed as limiting the range of peptides useful for the methods of the invention.

Survival of treated retinal neuronal cells denotes maintenance of the cell's viability to an extent greater
35 than that of untreated controls. Since the preponderance

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of retinal neuronal cells are commonly believed to be incapable of cell division, the ability of an agent to promote survival of such cells may be measured by assays which reproducibly indicate relative numbers of cells, 5 such as directly counting cells which stain as viable cells, or which possess other characteristics of viable neurons. The method and composition of the invention are useful for therapeutically treating a disorder of a human or other mammal characterized by death and/or dysfunction 10 of retinal neuronal cells, including disorders attributable to a disease of aging of, or injury to, such retinal neuronal cells.

Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description of the 15 preferred embodiments thereof, and from the claims.

Detailed Description

The drawings are first described.

The Drawings

Figure 1 is a graph illustrating the linearity of 20 the calcein survival assay.

Figure 2 is a histogram illustrating the survival-promoting effect of IGF-I on populations of retinal neurons cultured at various embryonic ages.

Figure 3 is a graph illustrating the relationship 25 between the concentration of IGF-I and the survival of a population of retinal neurons cultured from embryonic retina.

Figure 4 is a graph illustrating the relationship 30 between the concentration of IGF-I and the survival of a population of retinal neurons cultured from postnatal retina.

Figure 5 contains photomicrographs illustrating the axonal regenerative effect of IGF-I on cultures of retinal neurons.

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Figure 6 is a histogram illustrating the effect of IGF-I and a peptide fragment of IGF-II (amino acids 54-67) on the survival of populations of retinal neurons.

Figure 7 contains photographs of IGF-I treated or untreated postnatal rat retinal neuronal cultures stained with Rho42 antibody.

Figure 8 contains two graphs which demonstrate the linearity of a cell-based Rho42 ELISA.

Figure 9 is a histogram illustrating the effect of IGF-I and IGF-II (54-67) on the photoreceptor subpopulation of rat retinal neuronal cultures.

Figure 10 is a graph showing the effect of IGF-I, IGF-II, and IGF-III on retinal neuronal cell survival.

Figure 11 is a graph showing the effect of linear peptide derivative on IGFs on retinal neuronal survival.

IGF-I, IGF-II and the Eye:

We have discovered that IGFs function to promote the survival of cells prepared from dissociated retina obtained from both prenatal and postnatal retinal neuronal tissue. This finding is significant and unexpected in that other growth factors have not been demonstrated to promote survival of broad classes of retinal neuronal cells, both pre- and postnatally.

The Peptides

A "functional derivative" of a polypeptide is a compound which is a fragment or an analog of that molecule and which possesses the desired biological activity, herein defined as the ability to promote survival of retinal neuronal cells. A "fragment" of a polypeptide refers to any polypeptide subset of that polypeptide. An "analog" of a polypeptide refers to a molecule having biological activity but possessing some structural differences compared to the polypeptide. The

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analog preferably contains greater than or equal to 50% homology with the parent molecule and more preferably contains greater than or equal to 75% homology with the parent molecule. Analogs of polypeptides may contain
5 altered amino acid sequences, or the presence of additional chemical moieties not normally a part of the molecule. Such moieties (introduced for example, by acylation, alkylation, cationization, or glycosylation reactions) may improve the molecule's solubility,
10 adsorption, transport, biological half-life etc. Alternatively, or in addition, some moieties may decrease the toxicity of the molecule, or eliminate or attenuate any undesirable side effect of the molecule. Moieties capable of mediating such effects are disclosed in
15 Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences (Mack Pub. Co., Easton, PA, 1980). Although some derivatives of IGF-I and IGF-II may be inoperative alone or in combination, a person skilled in the art disclosed herein can recognize which are operative and which are not, as will be
20 explained in more detail below.

Some of the compounds within the scope of this invention are depicted in Table 1, in which the amino acid sequences (expressed using single letter abbreviations as defined in Table 2) of IGF-I, IGF-II and
25 a number of functional derivatives of IGF-I and IGF-II, are listed. The list in Table 1 is provided as an example, and the invention is not limited to the derivatives present therein. These derivatives were selected for study on the basis of one or more of the
30 following criteria, which are related to the ability to bind to IGF-I or IGF-II receptors, and thus are useful for identifying additional derivatives of the invention:
(1) conservation of amino acid sequence among species;
(2) presence of "conservative" amino acid substitutions
35 among species (i.e., amino acids with similar shape,

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charge or other salient characteristics); (3) receptor-shielding of tyrosine residues from radioiodination (Maly and Luthi, 1988, J. Biol. Chem. 263:7068); (4) predominance of hydrophilic residues, suggesting the
5 location of a receptor-binding domain on the surface of the polypeptide, a presumptive requirement for receptor interaction; and (5) consideration of hydrophobic and polar regions of three-dimensional models (e.g., Blundell et al., 1983, Fed. Proc. 42:2592-2597) and identifying
10 therefrom regions which are possible binding sites.

Since the bioavailability of peptides may be related to their lipophilicity or their net ionic charge, suitable modifications of these peptides, e.g., by substituting pentafluorophenylalanine for phenylalanine,
15 or by conjugation to cationized albumin (Kastin et al., 1979, Biochem. Behav. 11:713-716; Rapoport et al., 1980, Science 207:84-86; Pardridge et al., 1987, Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun. 146:307-313; Riekkinen et al., 1987, Peptides 8:261-265) may be important for their
20 bioavailability, and these modifications are within the scope of the invention. In addition, since bioavailability of peptides may be limited by their susceptibility to degradation by proteases and peptidases (Littlewood et al., 1988, Neurochem. Int. 12:383-389),
25 modifications of these peptides, e.g., replacement of L-amino acids with D-amino acids to increase their metabolic stability may also be important for their therapeutic efficacy, and these modified peptides are also within the scope of the invention.

30 Functional derivatives of the invention include, among others, peptides which vary from the native IGF molecules in any one or more of the following ways:

1. Chemical modification of the amino and carboxy groups present at the respective ends of the peptides.

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2. Replacement of one or more of the amino acid residues in the native sequence with biologically compatible other amino acid residues.
 3. Replacement of one or more of the amino acid residues in the native sequence with chemically modified, biologically compatible other amino acid residues.
 4. Deletion of one or more of the amino acid residues in the native sequence.
 5. Repetition of one or preferably a sequence of several amino acid residues in the native sequence, with or without chemical modification to, or replacement or deletion of, one or more members of the sequence.
 6. Cyclization, that is, joining the amino acid and carboxy ends of the linear peptide.
 7. Linkage of an IGF-I or IGF-II, or functional derivatives of either IGF-I or IGF-II with another molecule such as a polypeptide (e.g., another fragment of IGF-I or IGF-II) or a carbohydrate, by means of a disulfide, peptide, ester or other covalent bond.
 8. Retro-inverso peptides.
 9. "Scrambled" peptides.
- The invention also utilizes as a preferred subgroup within the IGF functional derivatives having the sequence:
- $R_1-AA_1-AA_2-AA_3-AA_4\dots AA_n-R_2$, wherein $AA_1, AA_2, AA_3, AA_4\dots AA_n$ are amino acid residues of IGF or of the IGF subsets or are conservative replacements for them as defined in Table 2, and n is any integer from 5 to 70 for IGF-I functional derivatives and 5-67 for IGF-II functional derivatives. R_1 is attached to the amino group of AA_1 and selected from the group of hydrogen, lower (C_{1-6}) alkyl, lower alkyl carbonyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, formyl, lower (C_{6-10}) aryl, aroyl, aryloxy-carbonyl, aralkyloxy-carbonyl, lower alkyloxycarbonyl, benzoyl, 1- or 2-thenoyl, nicotinoyl, dihydronicotinoyl,

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N-alkyldihydroisonicotinoyl, isonicotinoyl, and N-alkyldihydroisonicotinoyl. The carboxy-terminal substituent (R_2) of the peptides is selected from the following: OH; NH_2 , OR_3 , wherein R_3 is a lower alkyl or a lower aryl; OR_3OH , wherein R_3 is defined as above; and $NH-R_3$ or $N(CH_3)R_3$, wherein R_3 is defined as above. Alternatively, the carboxyl group of the carboxyl-terminal amino acid may be replaced by any one of $-PO_3H_2$, $-B(OH)_2$, $-CH_2OH$, $-SO_3H$ or a 5-tetrazole group.

10 The amino terminal amino group and/or the lysine, serine or threonine side chains occurring within the peptide may optionally be acylated by formyl, acetyl, propionyl, and similar lower alkylacyl residues or by aryl, or heterocyclic acyl residues such as benzoyl, thenoyl, nicotinoyl, isonicotinoyl, N-alkylnicotinoyl and their dihydro and tetrahydro derivatives. Such modifications would be expected to enhance the blood-brain barrier permeability of the therapeutic agent (Creveling et al., 1969, *Experientia* 25:26-27; Bodor et al., 1981, *Science* 214:1370-1372).

In peptide sequences containing proline, glutamic acid, or aspartic acid at the amino terminus, the amino terminal amino acid may optionally be replaced by L-pyroglutamic acid.

25 The fragment polypeptides of IGF-I or IGF-II are subsets of the IGF-I or IGF-II molecules respectively, containing fewer amino acid residues than the native molecules. A portion of the amino acids of the fragments may be substituted with conservative replacements or deletions which improve the chemical or biological stability of the product polypeptides or improve their transport across the blood-brain barrier. Preferably, no more than 30% and more preferably no more than 20% of the amino acid residues are replaced or deleted. A listing of suitable conservative replacements is given in Table

- 20 -

2, along with a key to the single-letter abbreviations for the common, naturally occurring amino acid residues found in proteins. Certain other abbreviations used in Table 2 are herein defined: by Nle is meant norleucine, 5 by Aib is meant aminoisobutyric acid, by AdaA is meant β -adamantylalanine, by AdaG is meant α -adamantylglycine, by homo-Arg is meant L-homoarginine, by D-homo-Arg is meant D-homoarginine, by Acp is meant ϵ -aminocaproic acid, by Chg is meant L- α -cyclohexylglycine, and by alla-Thr is 10 meant L-allothreonine. Additionally, by Cha is meant β -cyclohexyl-alanine, by Me is meant methyl (CH₃), by Orn is meant ornithine, by pyro-Glu is meant the pyroglutamyl group, by Met(O) and D-Met(O), are meant the sulfoxides derived from L- and D-methionine, respectively, by L-Dopa 15 is meant 3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-L-alanine, and by Bpa is meant 4-benzoyl-phenylalanine.

The symbolism and abbreviations used are otherwise those recommended by the IUPAC-IUB Joint Commission Biochemical Nomenclature, ("Nomenclature and Symbolism 20 for Amino Acids and Peptides, Recommendations 1983", 1985, J. Biol. Chem. 260:14-42). As is conventional, these same symbols are used to define the corresponding residues of the amino acids when they are linked to a peptide chain. Where the amino acid residue has isomeric 25 forms, it is the L-form of the amino acid that is represented unless otherwise expressly indicated. In accordance with conventional representation, the amino group of the N-terminus of each peptide appears to the left and the carboxy group at the C-terminus to the 30 right.

Besides the amino acid substitutions suggested above, other methods of improving transport of the polypeptide across the blood-brain barrier, such as chemical modification of the polypeptide may be employed. 35 In any chemical modification procedure, the polypeptide

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may first be attached to its receptor in order to protect and maintain the receptor-binding site structure during the chemical modification process, which can comprise, for example, cationization or glycosylation.

5 Cyclic Peptides

The invention also utilizes as a preferred subgroup within the IGF functional derivatives described above, cyclic peptides, preferably of 5-40 amino acid residues, and most preferably of 6-25 amino acid residues. Such peptides are preferably modeled after the looped domains of the IGF molecules. Such loops may be a consequence of natural disulfide bond formation, while others are a consequence of the folding of the protein as it achieves a minimal energy conformation or a receptor-induced conformation to permit binding. As stated above, cyclization can be effected by joining the amino and carboxyl ends of a linear peptide, either directly to form an amide (lactam) bond (Example 14), or by disulfide bond formation employing terminal cysteine groups. Any internal cysteine groups present are preferably selectively blocked before cyclization and may be unblocked afterward using well-established procedures (Example 13). Alternatively, internal cysteines may be replaced by an amino acid which would be expected to have a minimal influence on peptide conformation, e.g. alanine, which is frequently used in scanning mutagenesis studies.

Examples of preferred cyclic peptides include those derived by cyclization of the following monomeric peptides via disulfide bond formation of the terminal cysteine groups:

	CALLETYCATPAKSEC	(SEQ ID NO:17)
	CTYCATPAKSEC	(SEQ ID NO:57)
	CEPYCAPPKSEC	(SEQ ID NO:58)
35	CTYCAPAKSEC	(SEQ ID NO:59)

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	CALLETdYCATPAKSEC	(SEQ ID NO:47)
	CTdYCATPAKSEC	(SEQ ID NO:48)
	CTdYCAPAKSEC	(SEQ ID NO:49)
	CTYTAPAKSEC	(SEQ ID NO:60)
5	CALLETYATPAKSEC	(SEQ ID NO:61)
	CRRLEMYCAPLKPASAC	(SEQ ID NO:62)
	CGYSSSSRRAPQTC	(SEQ ID NO:63)
	CYFNKPTGYGC	(SEQ ID NO:64)
	CYFNKPTGYGSSSSRRAPQTC	(SEQ ID NO:65)
10	CKPTGYSSSRC	(SEQ ID NO:66)

An example of a cyclic peptide formed by amide bond formation is the following:

Cyclic (TYCAPAKSE) (SEQ ID NO:70).

15 Examples of preferred cyclic peptides based on looped domains of the IGF-I and IGF-II molecules are the following:

IGF I

GPETLCGAELVDALQFVCGDRGFYFNKPTGYGSSSSRRAPQTC
IVDECCFRSCDLRRLEMYCAPLKPAS (SEQ ID NO:1)

20

LOOP PEPTIDES PROPOSED:

1. Using Cys present in IGF-I.

	a) <u>CGCELVDALQFVC</u>	6-18 ¹	(SEQ ID NO:18)
25	b) <u>CDLRRLEMYC</u>	52-61	(SEQ ID NO:19)
	c) <u>CCFRSCDLRRLEMYC</u>	47-61	(SEQ ID NO:20)
30	d) <u>CDLRRLEMYCCPLKPAKSE</u>	52-70	(SEQ ID NO:21)
	e) <u>CCFRSC</u>	47-52	(SEQ ID NO:22)
	f) <u>CFRSC</u>	48-52	(SEQ ID NO:23)

35 ¹ Numbers refer to position of amino acids in corresponding naturally occurring IGF-I.

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g) CGCELVDALQFVC 6-18 (SEQ ID NO:18)
CCFRSCDLRRLEMYC 47-61 (SEQ ID NO:20)

2. Using extra Cys.

5 h) CGPETLC C+1-6 (SEQ ID NO:26)
 i) CGYGSSSRRCPQTGIVDEC C+30-47 (SEQ ID NO:27)
 10 j) CGDRGFYFNKPTC 21-31+C (SEQ ID NO:28)
 k) CCPLKPAKSAC 61-70+C (SEQ ID NO:29)
 l) CDLRRLEMY*APLKPAKSAC² 52-70+C (SEQ ID NO:30)

15

IGF-II

AYRPSETLCGGELVDTLQFVCGDRGFYFSRSPASRVSRRSR
 GIVEECCFRSCDLALLETYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:16)

LOOP PEPTIDES PROPOSED³:

1. Using Cys present in IGF-II.

20 a) CGGELVDTLQFVC 9-21⁴ (SEQ ID NO:32)
 b) CDLCLLETYC 51-60 (SEQ ID NO:33)
 25 c) CCFRSCDDLALLETYC 46-60 (SEQ ID NO:34)
 d) CDLCLLETYCATPAKSE 51-67 (SEQ ID NO:35)
 e) CCFRSC 46-51 (SEQ ID NO:22)
 30 f) CFRSC 47-51 (SEQ ID NO:23)

² * denotes deletion of an amino acid from the corresponding position of naturally occurring IGF-I or IGF-II.

³ Some of the following peptides contain an Ala--->Cys substitution.

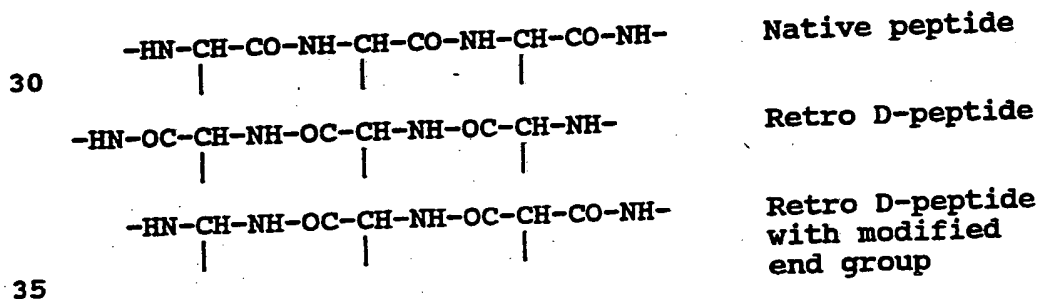
⁴ Numbers refer to position of amino acids in corresponding naturally occurring IGF-II.

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	g) CGGELVDTLQFVC	9-21 (SEQ ID NO:32)
	<u>CCFRSCDLCLLETYC</u>	46-60 (SEQ ID NO:39)
5	2. Using extra Cys.	
	h) <u>CCYRPSETLC</u>	C+1-9 (SEQ ID NO:40)
	i) <u>CRPCSRVSRRRSGIVEEC</u>	C+30-46 (SEQ ID NO:41)
10	j) <u>CGDRGFYFSRPC</u>	21-31+C (SEQ ID NO:42)
	k) <u>CCTPAKSEC</u>	60-67+C (SEQ ID NO:43)
15	l) <u>CDLCLLET*ATPAKSEC</u>	51-67+C (SEQ ID NO:44)

Retro-inverso Peptides

A retro-isomer of a peptide is defined by a reversal of the direction of the peptide bond while maintaining the side-chain topochemistry. In retro-inverso peptides, D-amino acids are substituted for L-amino acids to retain the overall conformation for biological response and receptor binding similar to the native peptides (Hayward et al., Peptides 1974: Proc. 13th Eur. Peptide Symp., ed. Y. Wolman, pp. 287-297; Goodman et al., Acc. Chem.Res. 12:1-7 (1979)). It has been shown that the retro-inverso peptides introduced well defined conformational constraints and showed limited biodegradation by endopeptidases.



The reversal of the amino- and carboxyl termini in the retro D-peptides reduces the activity in cases where

- 25 -

the terminal group was involved in activity.

Modifications may be made at the carboxy- terminus by introducing a 2-alkylmalonate derivative and a 2-alkyl substituted geminal diamine at the amino- terminus.

- 5 These groups may also be used as bridging residues when a partial or single amide modified retro-inverso segment is incorporated in a native sequence. Partial and selected single amide modified retro peptides may be used to modify the biological activity. Examples of different
- 10 retro-inverso peptides are depicted here in a general sequence.

gAA -- AA -- AA -- AA -- AA -- mAA End to end
modification

gAA -- AA -- AA --mAA -- AA -- AA Partial modification

15 gAA --mAA -- AA -- AA -- AA -- AA Single amide
modification

gAA = 2-substituted geminal diamine amino acid
surrogate

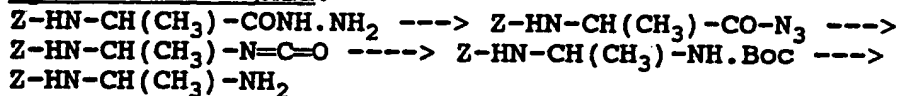
mAA = 2-alkyl malonate amino acid surrogate

20 AA = L-, D- or unusual amino acid based on the
design

Retro-inverso peptides are synthesized both by the solution phase segment condensation method and the solid phase method. A general procedure for preparing a

25 geminal diamino and malonyl derivative of alanine is given below.

Synthesis of gAla:



Synthesis of mAla:



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Proposed sequences: The retro-inverso peptides of the following fragments of IGF-I and IGF-II can be made following generally known peptide procedures. Numbers denote the corresponding amino acid positions of full-length IGF-I (SEQ ID NO:1), or of full-length IGF-II (SEQ ID NO:16), respectively.

IGF-I:

	GPETL CGAEL VDALQ FVCGD RGFYF	1-25
	AEL VDALQ FVCGD RGFYF	8-25
10	GPETL CGAEL VDALQ	1-15
	GPETL CGAEL	1-10
	VDALQ FVCGD RGFYF	11-25
	FVCGD RGFYF	16-25
	RGFYF NKPTG YGSSS RRAPQ TGIVD	21-45
15	RRAPQ TGIVD	36-45
	YGSSS RRAPQ TGIVD	31-45
	NKPTG YGSSS RRAPQ TGIVD	26-45
	NKPTG YGSSS RRAPQ	26-40
	RGFYF NKPTG YGSSS	21-35
20	SCDLR RLEMY CAPLK PAKSA	51-70
	RLEMY CAPLK PAKSA	56-70
	CAPLK PAKSA	61-70
	SCDLR RLEMY CAPLK	51-65
	SCDLR RLEMY	51-60
25	RLEMY CAPLK	56-65

IGF-II:

	VCGDR GFYFS RPSSR INRRS RGIV	20-44
	GFYFS RPSSR INRRS RGIV	26-44
	RPSSR INRRS RGIV	31-44
30	GFYFS RPSSR INRRS	26-40
	VCGDR GFYFS RPSSR	20-35
	CFRSC DLALL ETYCA TPAKS E	47-67
	LALL ETYCA TPAKS E	53-67
	TYCA TPAKS E	58-67
35	CFRSC DLALL ETYCA	47-61
	DLALL ETYCA	52-61

Uses of the Peptides

As described more fully below, the present invention provides novel uses of IGF-I and IGF-II and their functional derivatives, and of IGF-I, IGF-II and

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their functional derivatives in combination with other substances which may provide additive or synergistic effects as agents for the treatment of diseases or disturbances characterized by an increased risk of

5 retinal neuronal cell death. The bioactivity of each polypeptide (or combination of polypeptides) of the invention may be conveniently assayed by a cultured retinal cell assay, which is described in detail below. This assay discloses previously unknown bioactivity of

10 IGF-I and a functional derivative of IGF-II. The routine application of this assay, by one skilled in the art, can be used to discover other molecules which have activity that is additive or synergistic with that of IGF-I, as well as therapeutically useful functional derivatives of

15 IGF-I or IGF-II. Thus, the peptides of this invention should be useful for administration to humans and other mammals who suffer from retinal diseases or disturbances characterized by increased risk of retinal neuronal cell death.

20 The formulations of this invention are useful for parenteral administration, for example, intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular, intraorbital, intraocular, ophthalmic, topical, intranasal and aerosol administration. The compositions can be formulated for

25 parenteral administration to humans or other mammals in therapeutically effective amounts (e.g., amounts which eliminate or reduce the patient's pathological condition) to provide therapy for the retinal diseases described above.

30 The compounds provided herein can be formulated into pharmaceutical compositions by admixture with pharmaceutically acceptable nontoxic excipients and carriers. As noted above, such compositions may be prepared for use in parenteral administration,

35 particularly in the form of liquid solutions or

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suspensions; for ophthalmic administration, particularly in the form of drops or ointments.

The compositions may conveniently be administered in unit dosage form and may be prepared by any of the 5 methods well known in the pharmaceutical art, for example, as described in Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences. Formulations for administration may contain as common excipients sterile water or saline, cyclodextrans, polyalkylene glycols such as polyethylene glycol, oils of 10 vegetable origin, hydrogenated naphthalenes and the like. In particular, biocompatible, biodegradable lactide polymer, lactide/glycolide copolymer, or polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene copolymers may be useful excipients to control the release of the peptides. Other potentially 15 useful delivery systems for these peptides include ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer particles, osmotic pumps, implantable infusion systems, and liposomes. Formulations for administration may include a stabilizing agent, such as human serum albumin, as well as a 20 permeation enhancer, such as glycocholate. In addition, the compounds may be provided for ophthalmic administration in the form of ointments containing the active compound together with common excipients such as propylparaben, anhydrous liquid lanolin, mineral iol, and 25 white petrolatum.

The concentration of the compounds described herein in a therapeutic composition will vary depending upon a number of factors, including the dosage of the drug to be administered, the chemical characteristics 30 (e.g., hydrophobicity) of the compounds employed, and the route of administration. In general terms, the compounds of this invention may be provided in an aqueous physiological buffer solution or ointment containing about 0.1 to 10% w/v compound for parenteral or 35 ophthalmic administration. Typical dose ranges are from

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- about 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ to about 1 g/kg of body weight per day: a preferred dose range is from about 0.01 mg/kg to 100 mg/kg of body weight per day. The preferred dosage of drug to be administered is likely to depend on such
- 5 variables as the type and extent of progression of the retinal disease, the overall health status of the particular patient, the relative biological efficacy of the compound selected, the formulation of the compound excipients, and its route of administration.
- 10 The present invention will be further illustrated by the following examples. These examples are not to be construed as limiting the scope of the invention, which is to be determined solely by the appended claims.

Examples

- 15 Recombinant human IGF-I and IGF-II, as well as several chemically synthesized peptides consisting of partial sequences of IGF-I and IGF-II can be obtained from commercial sources as indicated in Table 1 or by direct chemical synthesis (see footnotes 5-7).
- 20 Example 1: To determine whether IGF-1 acts to promote survival of retinal neuronal cells, dissociated cultures of avian retina were prepared from animals at various developmental ages and the number of cells present in the cultures, following incubation for 48 hours in the
- 25 presence or absence of IGF-I, was measured.
- Retinas were dissected from embryonic chicks, dissociated by enzymatic digestion and cultured in vitro in defined insulin/serum-free medium according to Sato et al. (1979, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 76:514-517). The
- 30 number of cells in culture was measured using the vital stain calcein-AM. All cells are permeable to calcein-AM, but only live cells are capable of converting this

- 30 -

compound into a fluorescent derivative detectable by ordinary methods. In the first experiment, calcein-AM (6 μ M) was added to different cultures of retinal cells and the relationship between the level of fluorescence and the number of cells was determined. This relationship was found to be linear as shown in Figure 1, demonstrating that this assay is useful for examining the effect of compounds on the survival of cells in culture.

In the next experiment, IGF-I was added to half of the cultures at a final concentration of 100 nM, and the number of cells remaining at 48 hours post-treatment was measured using the calcein-AM assay described above. The results are presented in Figure 2. IGF-I uniformly enhanced the survival of cells (by 20-60%) in retinal neuronal cultures obtained from embryos at 8, 10, 12 and 14 days of age, compared to control, untreated cultures.

Example 2: To determine the concentration of IGF-1 required to promote survival of pre- or postnatal retinal neurons in culture, the following experiments were carried out: Retinal neurons were prepared from dissociated retina obtained from 10 day old chick embryos, or from adult postnatal day 6 rats as described above. Cultures were incubated in the presence of increasing concentrations of IGF-I and the number of cells surviving at 48 hours post-treatment was measured in the calcein-AM assay. The data are presented in Figures 3 and 4 and demonstrate that IGF-I acts both pre- and postnatally to promote survival of retinal neurons in culture in a dose-dependent manner. Based upon previously published data, the concentrations of IGF-I that promote neuronal cell survival in our experiments are consistent with the fact that IGF-I is acting through its own receptor (Karey et al., 1988, In Vitro Cell. Dev.

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Biol. 24:1107-1113; Ballard et al., 1988, Biochem. J. 249:721-726).

Example 3: To determine whether IGF-I affects retinal neurite regeneration, a population of neurons prepared from dissociated retina was cultured in defined insulin/serum-free media in the presence or absence of 100 nM IGF-I. Cultures were examined by phase contrast microscopy at 2-4 days following IGF-I treatment. Figure 5 illustrates that IGF-I treated cultures contained more cells with neurites than untreated control cultures indicating that IGF-I affects axonal regeneration in retinal neurons.

Example 4: To determine whether retinal survival could be enhanced when incubated in the presence of functional derivatives of IGF-I and IGF-II, a linear fragment of IGF-II that is relatively conserved within both IGF-I and IGF-II, was tested in our assay. The fragment contained a sequence of 14 amino acids from IGF-II (amino acids 54-67, wherein the amino terminal amino acid of IGF-II is number 1). This fragment, hereinafter termed IGF-II (54-67), was added to a population of neurons prepared from dissociated rat retina at a final concentration of 100 μ M, and was found to promote retinal neuronal cell survival as demonstrated in Figure 6.

Example 5: To determine whether IGF-I or IGF-II (54-67) could specifically promote survival of the photoreceptor subpopulation of cells in rat retinal neuronal cultures, the following experiments were carried out: The monoclonal antibody Rho42, which binds to an antigenic epitope within the extracellular domain of rhodopsin expressed on the surface of rod photoreceptor cells (Molday and MacKenzie, 1983, Biochemistry 22:653), was

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used in this assay. Postnatal rat retinal neuronal cultures were incubated in the presence or absence of 100 nM of IGF-I for 48 hours. Cells were harvested and reacted with Rho42 to which a fluorescent label had been added. Slides were prepared and the level of fluorescence in the cultures was qualitatively assessed using a fluorescence microscope. It is clear from Figure 7 that IGF-I treated cultures exhibited an increased level of fluorescence compared to untreated cultures, demonstrating that IGF-I promotes survival of the photoreceptor subpopulation of cells in postnatal rat retinal neuronal cultures.

To quantitate this assay, we developed a cell-based Rho42 ELISA test as follows: Several postnatal rat retinal cultures containing different numbers of cells, were incubated for 2-4 days following which cultures were fixed and immunolabelled with either the Rho42 monoclonal antibody, or the nonspecific monoclonal antibody P3, secreted by the myeloma cell line P3X6Ag8. Antibody binding was detected using a secondary antibody labelled with horseradish peroxidase and a chromogenic substrate O-phenylenediamine (OPD), having a maximum absorption wavelength of 490 nm. The level of absorption of light at 490 nm measured in the cultures is therefore directly related to the amount of primary antibody that originally bound to the cells. In Figure 8 it can be seen that there is a linear relationship between the level of absorption at 490 nm and the number of cells in each culture. In addition, the assay is specific for photoreceptor cells because only Rho42 reacted with the cells, compared with P3 which did not.

Next, rat retinal neuronal cultures were incubated in the presence of IGF-I or IGF-II (54-67) for 48 hours following which they were subjected to the cell-based ELISA test as described above. The results are presented

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in Figure 9. Both IGF-I and IGF-II (54-67) promoted the survival of photoreceptor cells by 20-30% compared with control untreated cultures.

Example 6: Cationization is a process by which free
5 carboxyl groups of acidic amino acid residues on a polypeptide (i.e., aspartic acid and glutamic acid residues) are modified in order to increase the net positive charge on the polypeptide. The process of cationization has been used to enhance the cellular
10 uptake of large molecules such as albumin and horseradish peroxidase into mouse fibroblast cells (Shen et al., 1978, Proc. Natl. Acad. USA 75:1872-1876). Kumagai et al. (1987, J. Biol. Chem. 262:15214-15219) used intact microvessels from bovine brain that are reportedly a
15 model system for measuring transport across the blood-brain barrier and demonstrated that uptake of cationized albumin by isolated bovine brain microvessels was enhanced when compared with uptake of native albumin.

For global modification of free carboxyl groups,
20 the polypeptide (e.g., IGF-I, IGF-II or a functional derivative) can be reacted with excess hexamethylenediamine (HMD) (15.5 g/g total protein) for 30 minutes at room temperature, followed by covalent coupling of HMD with 1-ethyl-3[-3-dimethyl-aminopropyl]
25 carbodiimide hydrochloride (EDAC) (1.0 g/g total protein) for 3 hours at room temperature. Unreacted species may be removed by filtration using Centricon-3 MPS-1 separation devices (Amicon, Danvers, MA) or ion exchange chromatography. The purified polypeptide may be analyzed
30 using isoelectric focusing to determine the amount of cationization.

If the global modification is used on a polypeptide that is a ligand which binds to a cell surface receptor, and the modification produces a

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molecule lacking biological activity, the cationization process may be repeated as described above except that the polypeptide would be pre-bound to an appropriate receptor prior to cationization, in order to protect the
5 receptor-binding site on the polypeptide. This protection procedure can be carried out as follows:

First, tissue, e.g., brain, containing receptors for the polypeptide of interest (e.g., IGF-I) is prepared. [Alternatively, recombinant receptor can be
10 used in place of tissue-derived receptor.] Brain tissue containing the cerebral cortex is dissected from adult rats and homogenized at low power for 5 minutes in a homogenizer (e.g., a Brinkman Polytron homogenizer) containing 50 volumes of ice-cold buffer consisting of 10
15 mM HEPES, 0.5% BSA, 0.0125% NEM, 0.025% bacitracin, and 100 KIU/ml aprotinin, pH 7.6 (Bohannon et al., 1986, Endocrinology 119:943-945). Following homogenization, the tissue is collected by centrifugation at 7800 x g for 20 minutes and resuspended in 10 volumes of assay buffer.

20 Next, the tissue is incubated with the polypeptide ligand for 2 hours at 4°C to permit receptor binding. The reaction mixture is brought to room temperature, and the cationization procedure is carried out using HMD and EDAC as described above. The reaction mixture is then
25 centrifuged at 16,000 rpm at 4°C for 30 seconds in an SS34 rotor in a Sorvall RC5B centrifuge. The supernatant is discarded and the pellet is washed three times in phosphate buffered saline with bovine serum albumin (1 mg/ml). The pellet is resuspended in 100 mM acetic acid
30 and incubated for 10 minutes at 4°C to release the cationized polypeptide from its receptors. After centrifugation again at 16,000 rpm, the supernatant, which contains the released cationized polypeptide, is pH-neutralized with NaOH. It may then be analyzed by

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isoelectric focusing, or any appropriate assay for biological activity.

Example 7: An alternative to the global modification method is to couple polylysine to at least one free
5 carboxyl group on the polypeptide (such as IGF-I, IGF-II or a functional derivative of either) with or without receptor protection as described above in Example 6. The procedure follows the method of Shen et al. (1978, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 75:1872-1876). For example,
10 polylysine, IGF-I and carbodiimide are added in a 1:1:1 ratio in water or buffer for 3 hours at room temperature. The modified protein can be separated and analyzed as described above in Example 6.

Example 8: A third method for modifying protein carboxyl
15 groups to enhance blood brain barrier transport is to form esters with diazomethane or N,N-dimethylformamide R acetals (DMF acetals), where R is dimethyl, diethyl, dibutyl, dibenzyl, etc. This type of modification rapidly forms esters from negatively charged carboxylic
20 acid groups, thus increasing the overall positive charge. An additional benefit from this modification is that these added ester groups may be such that they increase the overall lipophilicity of the polypeptide and may be removed by intrinsic esterases in vivo to yield intact
25 growth factor. The procedure for this modification, with or without receptor protection as described above in Example 6, is to react diazomethane or DMF acetals with the polypeptide in a 1:1 ratio in solution for 30 minutes at room temperature, followed by purification and
30 characterization as described above in Example 6.

Example 9: A fourth method of cationization, with or without receptor protection as described above in Example

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6, combines the advantages of polylysine cationization with the formation of cleavable esters to enhance blood-brain barrier transport, as well as to yield intact growth factor following transport. Polylysine may be made reactive by reaction with benzyloxylacetyl chloride followed by hydrogenation and mild esterification procedures (Hassner et al., 1978, Tet. Let. 46:4475-4478; Mihara et al., 1986, Int. J. Peptide Protein Res. 28:141-145). Alternatively, DMF acetal derivatives capable of reacting with polylysine could be used to link polylysine to free carboxy groups using ester linkages.

Example 10: A further type of polypeptide modification is glycosylation: the introduction of glucose or similar residues by reductive amination using, for example, glucose and sodium cyanoborohydride (NaCNBH_3). Glycosylation of proteins has been shown to enhance the cellular uptake of these proteins and may prove useful for improving blood-brain barrier transport. The procedure for glycosylation, with or without receptor protection as described in Example 6, is based on the method of Schwartz et al., (1977.....), wherein a polypeptide such as IGF-I, IGF-II, or a function derivative of either is combined with glucose and NaCNBH_3 in a molar ratio of 1:300:1600 in 200 mM phosphate buffer at pH 7.0 for at least 24 hours at 37°C. Unreacted entities may be removed as described in Example 6, or with lectin affinity chromatography. In previous studies using glycosylated albumin, the modified albumin was taken up by rat epididymal microvessels at a greater rate than was native albumin (Williams et al., 1981, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 78:2393-2397).

Example 11: To determine whether IGF-I, IGF-II, and IGF-III can promote the survival of retinal neuronal cells,

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dissociated cultures of postnatal rat retina were prepared and assayed for the total number of cells present after incubation in the presence or absence of IGFs. Retinas were dissected from postnatal day 6 rats, 5 dissociated by enzymatic digestion and seeded at a density of 6.25×10^4 cells/cm² in defined insulin/serum-free media (Bottenstein et al., 1979, PNAS 76:514-517). These cultures are heterogenous, comprised of at least 10 five independent retinal neuronal cell subpopulations, i.e., amacrine, bipolar, horizontal, photoreceptor and ganglion cells. Cultures were incubated in the presence or absence of 100 nM of each of the IGFs. The total number of cells remaining after 4 days was assayed by incubation with the vital stain calcein-AM at 6 μ M. This 15 compound is taken up by all cells but can only be converted to a fluorescent derivative by live cells. The relationship between cell number and relative fluorescence is linear, indicating that this assay can be used to assess relative differences in cell numbers. 20 Figure 10 is a graph illustrating that in IGF-I, IGF-II, and IGF-III treated cultures, the relative fluorescence units obtained were higher than that found for untreated control cultures. These data indicate that IGF-I, IGF-II, and IGF-III increase the total number of postnatal 25 rat retinal neuronal cells surviving over untreated cultures.

Example 12: To determine whether linear peptide derivatives of IGFs can support the survival of retinal neuronal cells, dissociated cultures of postnatal rat 30 retina were prepared and assayed for the total number of cells present after incubation in the presence or absence of peptides (100 μ M). Retinal neuronal cell cultures were prepared as described in Example 11 and the total number of cells surviving analyzed analogously. Peptides

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were derived from the amino acid regions 7-30 and 55-70 of IGF-I and IGF-III and the region within IGF-II, amino acids 54-67. Retinal neuronal cultures treated with the peptides IGF-II 54-67 (ALLETYCATPAKSE) (SEQ. ID No: 13);
 5 IGF-II (54-67 with D-Y at 59) (SEQ ID NO:45); IGF-II (54-67 with serine substituted at 60) (SEQ ID NO:71); IGF-II (58-67) (SEQ ID NO:68); IGF-II (58-67 with D-Y at 59) (SEQ ID NO:46); IGF-I and IGF-III (7-30; serine substituted at 18: GAELVDALQFVSGDRGFYFNKPTG) (SEQ ID
 10 NO:73); IGF-I and IGF-III (55-70: RRLEMYCAPLKPAKSA) (SEQ ID NO:67); EALLETYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:36); TYCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:70); TdYCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:50); iodinated TYCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:25); ETQCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:72); EPYCAPPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:69); YCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:54); YCAPA (SEQ ID
 15 NO:55); TYCAPA (SEQ ID NO:56); CATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:53); CAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:24) and APSTCEYKA (SEQ ID NO:38) gave higher fluorescence values than untreated cultures. These data indicate that these peptides increased the total number of cells surviving within dissociated
 20 preparations of postnatal rat retinal neuronal cultures relative to untreated cultures (Figure 11).

Table 5 lists peptides which were tested and did not increase the relative fluorescence units above those found for untreated cultures. While it is not a priori
 25 predictable from their structure, a high percentage of the peptides listed herein are effective for the method of the invention, and can be identified by the screening methods described herein, and by methods known to those skilled in the art.

30 Novel peptides of this example were prepared by solid phase peptide synthesis using methods well-known to those skilled in peptide synthesis. They are described and claimed in assignee's coassigned patent application, USSN 07/869,913, filed April 15, 1992.

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EXAMPLE 13

Part 1:

Synthesis of CALLETYCATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:17)

The compound CALLETYCATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:17) was prepared by the solid phase method of peptide synthesis on a Milligen BioSearch Model 9600 Peptide Synthesizer.

0.5 gm (0.46 mM/gm) of Fmoc-Cys (S-triphenylmethyl)-p-alkoxybenzyl alcohol resin (Advanced ChemTech) was placed in the reaction vessel and was sequentially allowed to react with 1.0 mM solutions of

- 1) Fmoc-Glutamic acid- γ -t-butyl ester
- 2) Fmoc-Serine-t-butyl ether
- 3) ϵ -t-butyloxycarbonyl-Fmoc-Lysine
- 4) Fmoc-Alanine
- 15 5) Fmoc-Proline
- 6) Fmoc-Threonine-t-butyl ether
- 7) Fmoc-Alanine
- 8) S-acetamidomethyl-Fmoc-Cysteine
- 9) Fmoc-Tyrosine-t-butyl ether
- 20 10) Fmoc-Threonine-t-butyl ether
- 11) Fmoc-Glutamic acid- γ -t-butyl ester
- 12) Fmoc-Leucine
- 13) Fmoc-Leucine
- 14) Fmoc-Alanine
- 25 15) S-triphenylmethyl-Fmoc-Cysteine

in 1:1 DMF/DCM using benzotriazol-1-yloxytris(dimethylamino)phosphonium hexafluorophosphate (BOP) and 1-hydroxybenzotriazole (HOBT) as a coupling agent. Finally, the crude peptide CALLETYC(Acm)ATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:17) was removed from 0.91 gm of the resin by treatment with 10 mL of a deblocking cocktail containing 90% trifluoroacetic acid, 5% thioanisole, 3% ethanedithiol and 2% anisole. After 4.5h of stirring the mixture was filtered and the filtrate was dried using

- 40 -

argon and precipitated using anhydrous ether. The resulting crude peptide weighed 0.34 gm.

Part 2:

Cyclization of CALLETYC(Acm)ATPAKSEC (SEQ ID

5 NO:17)

The crude peptide (0.3 gm) is dissolved in water (1000 mL) and the pH is adjusted to 8.4 with 50% ammonium hydroxide in water. A dilute solution (0.01 N) of potassium ferricyanide is added dropwise until a pale
10 yellow color persists. After stirring for 2 h, the reaction is quenched by adjusting the solution to pH 4.6 with glacial acetic acid. The excess ferro- and ferricyanide ions are removed by passing through an
15 mL and the solution adjusted to pH 4.6. To remove the acetamidomethyl (Acm) protecting group from the internal Cys, a 0.2 M solution (4 mL) of mercury(II)acetate in 1:1 water/acetic acid is added and the reaction mixture is stirred for an hour. The resulting mixture is desalted
20 and purified by HPLC as described above.

Example 14

Synthesis of Cyclic TYCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:70)

The compound cyclic TYCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:70) was prepared by utilizing solid phase (Milligen BioSearch
25 Model 9600 Peptide Synthesizer) and solution phase methods.

0.79 gram (0.97 mM/gm) of p-alkoxybenzyl alcohol resin (Bachem BioScience) was placed in the reaction vessel and was sequentially allowed to react with 3.0 mM
30 solutions of

- 1) Fmoc-Glutamic acid- γ -benzyl ester
- 2) Fmoc-Serine-O-benzyl ether
- 3) ϵ -benzyloxycarbonyl-Fmoc-Lysine
- 4) Fmoc-Alanine

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- 5) Fmoc-Proline
- 6) Fmoc-Alanine
- 7) S-acetamidomethyl-Fmoc-Cysteine
- 8) Fmoc-Tyrosine-O-benzyl ether
- 5 9) Fmoc-Threonine-O-benzyl ether

in 1:1 DMF/DCM using [2-(1H-benzotriazol-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluroniumtetrafluoroborate (TBTU) and HOBT as a coupling agent. Each of the coupling steps was carried out as described (Example 19). The crude peptide (0.84
10 g) was removed from 1.82 grams of the resin by treatment with a deblocking cocktail containing 15 mL of TFA, 10 mL of DCM and 0.5 mL of water.

The peptide was dissolved in 30 mL of DMF and added to a solution of 1000 mL DMF containing 2 mL of N-
15 methylmorpholine and 2.5 mL of diphenylphosphorazide over a period of one hour. The solvent was evaporated after overnight stirring. The crude product was dissolved in ethyl acetate (200 mL), and the solution was washed with 2% citric acid, water and 3% sodium bicarbonate. The
20 peptide obtained after evaporation was hydrogenated for an hour using 10% Pd on activated charcoal using ethyl acetate as the solvent. The Acn group was removed from the peptide using mercury (II) acetate and purified using HPLC as described above.

TABLE 1
IGF PEPTIDE SEQUENCES

Peptide Name	Sequence	Source	Cat. #
5 Human IGF-I (Somatomedin-C)	GPETL CGAEL VDALQ FVCGD RGFYF NIKPTG YGSSS- -RRAPQ TGI VD ECCFR SCDLR RLENY CAPLK PAKSA (SEQ ID NO:1)	ANGEN ⁵	14010
Human IGF-I (Somatomedin-C)	GPETL CGAEL VDALQ FVCGD RGFYF NKPTG YGSSS- -RRAPQ TGI VD ECCFR SCDLR RLENY CAPLK PAKSA (SEQ ID NO:1)	PENINSULA ⁶	9010 Lot 15578
10 IGF-I(4-70) (Human Brain IGF)	TLCGAEL VDALQ FVCGD RGFYF NKPTG YGSSS- -RRAPQ TGI VD ECCFR SCDLR RLENY CAPLK PAKSA (SEQ ID NO:2)	BMB ⁷ BMB ⁷	Lot 88:101G Lot S:25
IGF-I(24-41)	YFNKP TGYGS SSRRA PQT (SEQ ID NO:3)		PENINSULA ⁶ 7308 Lot 007942
15 IGF-I(30-41)	YFNKP TGYGS SSRRA PQT (SEQ ID NO:3)	BACHEM ⁸	PGRO 080 Lot F297
IGF-I(30-41)	YFNKP TGYGS SSRRA PQT (SEQ ID NO:3)	Synthetic ⁹	
IGF-I(30-41)	YFNKP TGYGS SSRRA PQT (SEQ ID NO:3)	PENINSULA ⁶	7306 Lot 003251
20 IGF-I(62-70)	APLKP AKSA (SEQ ID NO:5)	PENINSULA ⁶	7318 Lot 015726
IGF-I(24-32)	YFNKP TGYG (SEQ ID NO:6)	Synthetic ⁹	7318 Lot 105726
IGF-I(24-41)-AMIDE	YFNKP TGYGS SSRRA PQT-NH ₂ (SEQ ID NO:7)	Synthetic ¹⁰	
25 IFG-I(33-41)-AMIDE	SSSRR APQT-NH ₂ (SEQ ID NO:8)	Synthetic ¹⁰	

5 Angen, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320

6 Peninsula Laboratories, Belmont, CA 94002

7 Boehringer Mannheim Biochemicals, #1276-930, Indianapolis, IN 46250

30 8 Bachem, Inc., Torrance, CA 90505

9 Synthesized on a Biosearch Solid Phase Peptide Synthesizer Model 9600 using Fmoc-Amino Acids linked to p-Alokoxybenzyl Alcohol Resins supplied by Bachem Bioscience, Inc. Philadelphia, PA 19104.

10 Synthesized on a Biosearch Solid Phase Peptide Synthesizer Model 9600 using 4-(2', 4' -Dimethoxyphenyl-Fmoc-Aminomethyl)-Phenoxy Resin (Aφ4719) supplied by Novabiochem, AG Laufelfingen, Switzerland.

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<u>Peptide Name</u>	<u>Sequence</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Cat. #</u>
48-Acm-IGF-1(42-57)- AMIDE	GIVDE CCFRS CLDRR L -NH ₂ (SEQ ID NO:9) ^{Acm}	Synthetic	11
IGF-1(33-41)	SSSRR APQT (SEQ ID NO:10)	Synthetic ⁹	
5 IGF-1(28-41)	PTGYG SSSRR APQT (SEQ ID NO:11)	Synthetic ⁹	
IGF-1(27-36)	KPTGY GSSSR (SEQ ID NO:12)	Synthetic ⁹	
IGF-11(54-67)	ALLET YCATP AKSE (SEQ ID NO:13)	PENINSULA ⁶	12 7308 Lot 010718
IGF-11(62-67)	TPAKS E (SEQ ID NO:14)		
10 IGF-11(33-40)	SRVSR RSR (SEQ ID NO:15)	PENINSULA ⁶	7304 Lot 016905
IGF-11 Somatomedin-A	AYRPS ETLCG GELVD TLQFV CGDRG FYFSR PASRV SRRSR GIVEE CCFRS CDLAL LETYC ATPAK SE (SEQ ID NO:16)	COLLABORATIVE ¹³ COLLABORATIVE ¹³	Lot 89-0172 Lot 89-0401

15 ¹¹ Synthesized on a Biosearch Solid Phase Peptide Synthesizer Model 9600 using the resin identified in footnote ⁶. Acm = Acetamidomethyl substituent on the cysteine side-chain sulfur atom.

20 ¹² This compound is incorrectly listed in the Peninsula Laboratories catalog as "Insulin-like Growth Factor I (57-70)".

¹³ Collaborative Research, Inc., Bedford, MA 01730

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TABLE 2

Conservative Amino Acid Replacements

<u>FOR AMINO ACID</u>	<u>CODE</u>	<u>REPLACE WITH</u>
Alanine	A	D-Ala, Gly, Aib, B-Ala, Acp, L-Cys, D-Cys, or delete
5 Arginine	R	D-Arg, Lys, D-Lys, homo-Arg, D-homo-Arg, Met, Ile, D-Met, D-Ile, Orn, D-Orn or delete
Asparagine	N	D-Asn, Asp, D-Asp, Glu, D-Gln, Gln, or delete
Aspartic Acid	D	D-Asp, D-Asn, Asn, Glu, D-Glu, Gln, D-Gln or delete
Cysteine	C	D-Cys, S-Me-Cys, Met, D-Met, Thr, D-Thr, or delete
10 Glutamine	Q	D-Gln, Asn, D-Asn, Glu, D-Glu, Asp, D-Asp or delete
Glutamic Acid	E	D-Glu, D-Asp, Asp, Asn, D-Asn, Gln, D-Gln, or delete
Glycine	G	Ala, D-Ala, Pro, D-Pro, Aib, B-Ala, Acp or delete
Isoleucine	I	D-Ile, Val D-Val, AdaA, AdaG, Leu, D-Leu, Met, D-Met, or delete
15 Leucine	L	D-Leu, Val, D-Val, AdaA, AdaG, Leu, D-Leu, Met, D-Met or delete
Lysine	K	D-Lys, Arg, D-Arg, homo-Arg, D-homo-Arg, Met, D-Met, Ile, D-Ile, Orn, D-Orn or delete
Methionine	M	D-Met, S-Me-Cys, Ile, D-Ile, Leu, D-Leu, Val, D-Val or delete
20 Phenylalanine	F	D-Phe, Tyr, D-Thr, L-Dopa, His, D-His, D-Trp, Trans-3,4, or 5-phenylproline, Ada-A, AdaG, cis-3,4, or 5-phenylproline, Bpa, D-Bpa or delete
Proline	P	D-Pro, L-L-thiazolidine-4-carboxylic acid, D-or L-l-oxazolidine-4-carboxylic acid (Kauer, U.S. Patent 4,511,390) or delete
25 Serine	S	D-Ser, Thr D-Thr, allo-Thr, Met, D-Met, Met(O)D-Met(O), L-Cys, D-Cys, or delete
Threonine	T	D-Thr, Ser, D-Ser, allo-Thr, Met, D-Met, Met(O), Val, D-Val or delete
30 Tyrosine	Y	D-Tyr, Phe, D-Phe, L-Dopa, His, D-His or delete
Valine	V	D-Val, Leu, D-Leu, Ile, D-Ile, Met, D-Met, AdaA, AdaG or delete
Tryptophan	W	D-Trp, Tyr, D-Tyr, Phe, D-Phe
Histidine	H	D-His, Try, D-Tyr, Phe, D-Phe

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TABLE 3

Sequence	Resin used	Purification method* (RT)	Wt. of pure peptide(mg)	SEQ ID NO
5 TYCAT PAK	Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-resin	I (1.0g, 0.63meq/g)	5.9 (13.8 min)	51
LETYC ATP	Fmoc-Pro-resin	I (0.5g, 0.36meq/g)	6.1 (20.7 min)	52
CATPA KSE	p-alkoxybenzylalcohol	II (1.0g, 0.97meq/g)	11.6 (22.8 min)	53
10 TdYCAP AKSE	Fmoc-CAPAKSE-resin	III (0.2g, 0.97meq/g)	9.7 (13.3 min)	50
YCAPA KSE	Fmoc-CAPAKSE-resin	IV (0.2g, 0.97meq/g)	14.3 (13.4 min)	54
15 YCAPA	p-alkoxybenzylalcohol	V (1.0g, 0.97meq/g)	16.0 (9.7 min)	55
TYCAP A	Fmoc-YCAPA-resin	VI (0.3g, 0.97meq/g)	25.0 (16.6 min)	56
CAPAK SE	p-alkoxybenzylalcohol	IV (0.4g, 0.97meq/g)	16.2 (9.1 min)	24
20 TY(I ₂)CAP AKSE	Fmoc-APAKSE-resin	VII (0.31g, 0.97meq/g)	17.9 (13.4 min)	25
EALLE TYCAT PAKSE	Fmoc-Glu(t-Bu)-resin	VIII (0.5g, 0.36meq/g)	10.8 (12.7 min)	36
25 ALLEK YCAKP AKSE	Fmoc-Glu(t-Bu)-resin	IX (0.5g, 0.36meq/g)	35.0 (14.3 min)	37
APSTC EYKA	p-alkoxybenzylalcohol	III (0.5g, 0.97meq/g)	9.9	38
ALLET YSATP AKSE	Fmoc-Glu(t-Bu)-resin	I (0.4g, 0.53 meq/g)	16.86 (25.17)	71
30 ETQCA TPAKS E	Fmoc-Glu(t-Bu)-resin	III (0.72g, 0.53 meq/g)	8.27 (12.7 min)	72
GAELV DALQF VSGDR	Fmoc-Gly-resin	V	16.86	73
GFYFN KPTG		(0.42g, 0.32 meq/g)	(23.23 min)	

* Purification methods by HPLC:

RT = Retention time

Solvent A = water with 0.1% TFA** and B = acetonitrile with 0.1%

TFA

- 40 Flow rate = 9.5mL/min. (Waters) and 3.5 mL/min. (Vydac)
- I. 0-40% of B in 40 min. Column: Waters C8
 - II. 0-10% of B in 40 min. Column: Waters C8
 - III. 5-15% of B in 15 min. Column: Vydac C8
 - IV. 0-10% of B in 10 min. Column: Vydac C8
 - 45 V. 5-60% of B in 40 min. Column: Vydac C18
 - VI. 5-60% of B in 60 min. Column: Waters C18
 - VII. 5-40% of B in 25 min. Column: Vydac C18
 - VIII. 10-25% of B in 40 min. Column: Waters C8
 - IX. 10-30% of B in 40 min. Column: Vydac C8

50 ** TFA = trifluoroacetic acid; (I) = iodination

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TABLE 4

Sequence NO:	Amino acid analysis	Molecular mass SEQ ID
	Theory (Found)*	Calculated (Found)
5		
TYCATPAK	Thr 2 (1.96); Ala 2 (2.28) Pro 1 (0.98); Tyr 1 (1.00) Lys 1 (1.04); Cys 1	854.14 (854)51
10 LETYCATP	Glx 1 (1.02); Thr 2 (1.74) Ala 1 (1.23); Pro 1 (1.10) Tyr 1 (1.00); Leu 1 (1.14) Cys 1	897.16 (898)52
15 CATPAKSE	Glx 1 (1.05); Ser 1 (0.99) Thr 1 (1.15); Ala 2 (2.09) Pro 1 (0.99); Lys 1 (0.87) Cys 1	805.00 (806)53
20 TDYCAPAKSE	Glu 1 (0.86); Ser 1 (0.90) Thr 1 (1.30); Ala 2 (2.04) Pro 1 (0.86); Tyr 1 (1.00) Lys 1 (1.07)	969.00 (970)50
25 YCAPAKSE	Glu 1 (0.94); Ser 1 (0.86) Ala 2 (1.96); Pro 1 (0.93) Tyr 1 (0.93); Lys 1 (1.30) Cys 1	867.99 (868)54
YCAPA	Ala 2 (2.09); Pro 1 (0.96) Tyr 1 (0.98); Cys 1	523.00 (524)55
30 TYCAPA	Thr 1 (1.18); Ala 2 (2.00) Pro 1 (0.95); Tyr 1 (0.96) Cys	624.00 (625)56
CAPAKSE	Glu 1 (0.92); Ser 1 (0.88) Ala 2 (2.22); Pro 1 (1.08) Lys 1 (1.09); Cys 1	704.00 (705)24
35 TY(I ₂)CAPAKSE	Glx 1 (0.75); Ser 1 (0.99) Thr 1 (1.02); Ala 2 (2.00) Pro 1 (1.02); Tyr 1 (0.99) Lys 1 (1.28); Cys 1	1220.00 (1221)25
40 EALLETYCATPAKSE	Glx 3 (3.04); Ser 1 (0.91) Thr 2 (1.84); Ala 3 (3.03) Pro 1 (0.92); Tyr 1 (0.98) Leu 2 (2.18); Lys 1 (1.19) Cys 1	1625.00 (1626)36
45 ALLEKYCAKPAKSE	Glx 2 (2.00); Ser 1 (0.81) Ala 3 (2.96); Pro 1 (0.99) Tyr 1 (0.95); Leu 2 (2.00) Lys 3 (3.07); Cys 1	1551.06 (1552)37

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Table 4, continued

Sequence NO:	Amino acid analysis	Molecular massSEQ ID
	Theory (Found)*	Calculated (Found)
5 ----- APSTCEYKA	Glx 1 (1.02); Ser 1 (0.97) Thr 1 (0.89); Ala 2 (2.21) Pro 1 (0.89); Tyr 1 (0.94) Lys 1 (1.14); Cys 1	969.00 (969)38
10 ALLETYSATP- AKSE	Glx 2 (2.05); Ser 2 (1.77) Ala 3 (3.19); Pro 1 (1.07) Tyr 1 (0.94); Leu 2 (2.17) Thr 2 (1.95); Lys 1 (1.01)	1480.70 (1480)71
15 ETQCATPAKSE	Glx 3 (2.85); Ser 1 (0.94) Thr 2 (2.18); Ala 2 (1.96) Pro 1 (0.89); Lys 1 (1.02) Cys 1	1164.41 (1165)72
20 GAELVDALQF- VSGDRGFYFN- KPTG	Glx 2 (2.00); Ser 1 (1.15) Thr 1 (1.28); Ala 2 (2.19) Pro 1 (0.92); Tyr 1 (0.89) Lys 1 (1.05); Asp 3 (3.27) Gly 4 (4.19); Arg 1 (1.02) Val 2 (1.82); Leu 2 (1.89) Phe 3 (2.61)	2589.31 (2589)73
25		

* Cysteine was not determined

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TABLE 5LINEAR DERIVATIVES

	IGF-I (54-65)	ALLETYCATPAK	(SEQ ID
5	NO:74)		
	IGF-II (58-65)	TYCATPAK	(SEQ ID
	NO:51)		
	IGF-II (56-65)	LETYCATPAK	(SEQ ID
	NO:75)		
	IGF-II (56-63)	LETYCATP	(SEQ ID
10	NO:52)		
	IGF-II (63-67)	PAKSE	(SEQ ID
	NO:77)		

MODIFIED LINEAR DERIVATIVES

	TYSAPAKSE	(SEQ ID NO:78)
15	EKYCAKPAKSE	(SEQ ID NO:79)
	ALLETYMATPAKSE	(SEQ ID NO:76)
	ALLEKYCAKPAKSE	(SEQ ID NO:37)
	DLALLETYSATPAKSE	(SEQ ID NO:31)

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SEQUENCE LISTING**(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:**

(i) APPLICANT: Cephalon, Inc.

5 (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: TREATING RETINAL NEURONAL
DISORDERS BY THE APPLICATION OF
INSULIN-LIKE GROWTH FACTORS AND
ANALOGS

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 79

(iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:

10 (A) ADDRESSEE: Fish & Richardson
(B) STREET: 225 Franklin Street
(C) CITY: Boston
(D) STATE: Massachusetts
(E) COUNTRY: U.S.A.
15 (F) ZIP: 02110-2804

(v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:

(A) MEDIUM TYPE: 3.5" Diskette, 1.44 Mb
(B) COMPUTER: IBM PS/2 Model 50Z or 55SX
(C) OPERATING SYSTEM: MS-DOS (Version 5.0)
20 (D) SOFTWARE: WordPerfect (Version 5.1)

(vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:

(A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
(B) FILING DATE:
(C) CLASSIFICATION:

25 (vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:

(A) APPLICATION NUMBER: 07/790,690
(B) FILING DATE: November 8, 1991

(viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:

30 (A) NAME: Clark, Paul T.
(B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 30,162
(C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: 02655/012002

(ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:

(A) TELEPHONE: (617) 542-5070
 (B) TELEFAX: (617) 542-8906
 (C) TELEX: 200154

5 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

10 (A) LENGTH: 70
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 1:

Gly Pro Glu Thr Leu Cys Gly Ala Glu Leu Val Asp Ala Leu Gln Phe
 1 5 10 15
 Val Cys Gly Asp Arg Gly Phe Tyr Phe Asn Lys Pro Thr Gly Tyr Gly
 15 20 25 30
 Ser Ser Ser Arg Arg Ala Pro Gln Thr Gly Ile Val Asp Glu Cys Cys
 35 40 45
 Phe Arg Ser Cys Asp Leu Arg Arg Leu Glu Met Tyr Cys Ala Pro Leu
 50 55 60
 20 Lys Pro Ala Lys Ser Ala
 65 70

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

25 (A) LENGTH: 67
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 2:

Thr Leu Cys Gly Ala Glu Leu Val Asp Ala Leu Gln Phe Val Cys Gly
 30 1 5 10 15
 Asp Arg Gly Phe Tyr Phe Asn Lys Pro Thr Gly Tyr Gly Ser Ser Ser
 20 25 30

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Arg Arg Ala Pro Gln Thr Gly Ile Val Asp Glu Cys Cys Phe Arg Ser
 35 40 45

Cys Asp Leu Arg Arg Leu Glu Met Tyr Cys Ala Pro Leu Lys Pro Ala
 50 55 60

5 Lys Ser Ala
 65

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 3:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

10 (A) LENGTH: 18
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 3:

15 Tyr Phe Asn Lys Pro Thr Gly Tyr Gly Ser Ser Ser Arg Arg Ala Pro
 1 5 10 15
 Gln Thr

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

20 (A) LENGTH: 12
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 4:

25 Gly Tyr Gly Ser Ser Ser Arg Arg Ala Pro Gln Thr
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 5:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

30 (A) LENGTH: 9
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 5:

Ala Pro Leu Lys Pro Ala Lys Ser Ala
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 6:

5 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 9
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

10 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 6:

Tyr Phe Asn Lys Pro Thr Gly Tyr Gly
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

15 (A) LENGTH: 18
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

20 (ix) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa is a threonine with a carboxy-terminal amide group.

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 7:

Tyr Phe Asn Lys Pro Thr Gly Tyr Gly Ser Ser Ser Arg Arg Ala Pro
 1 5 10 15

Gln Xaa

25 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

30 (A) LENGTH: 9
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(ix) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa is a threonine with a carboxy-terminal amide group.

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 8:

5 Ser Ser Ser Arg Arg Ala Pro Gln Xaa
1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

10 (A) LENGTH: 16
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
(D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(ix) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa is a leucine with a carboxy-terminal amide group. Zaa is a cysteine with an acetamidomethyl-substituent on the side-chain.

15 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 9:

Gly Ile Val Asp Glu Cys Zaa Phe Arg Ser Cys Leu Asp Arg Arg Xaa
1 5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 10:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

20 (A) LENGTH: 9
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
(D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 10:

25 Ser Ser Ser Arg Arg Ala Pro Gln Thr
1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 11:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 14
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 11:

Pro Thr Gly Tyr Gly Ser Ser Ser Arg Arg Ala Pro Gln Thr
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 12:

10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 10
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

15 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 12:

Lys Pro Thr Gly Tyr Gly Ser Ser Ser Arg
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 13:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

20 (A) LENGTH: 14
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 13:

25 Ala Leu Leu Glu Thr Tyr Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 14:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 6
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 14:

Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 15:

10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 8
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

15 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 15:

Ser Arg Val Ser Arg Arg Ser Arg
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 16:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

20 (A) LENGTH: 67
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 16:

25 Ala Tyr Arg Pro Ser Glu Thr Leu Cys Gly Gly Glu Leu Val Asp Thr
 1 5 10 15

Leu Gln Phe Val Cys Gly Asp Arg Gly Phe Tyr Phe Ser Arg Pro Ala
 20 25 30

30 Ser Arg Val Ser Arg Arg Ser Arg Gly Ile Val Glu Glu Cys Cys Phe
 35 40 45

Arg Ser Cys Asp Leu Ala Leu Leu Glu Thr Tyr Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala
 50 55 60

Lys Ser Glu
 65

5 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 16
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 10 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 17:

Cys Ala Leu Leu Glu Thr Tyr Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu Cys
 1 5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 18:

15 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 13
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

20 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 18:

Cys Gly Cys Glu Leu Val Asp Ala Leu Gln Phe Val Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 19:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

25 (A) LENGTH: 10
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 19:

30 Cys Asp Leu Arg Arg Leu Glu Met Tyr Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 20:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 15
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 20:

Cys Cys Phe Arg Ser Cys Asp Leu Arg Arg Leu Glu Met Tyr Cys
 1 5 10 15

10 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 21:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

15 (A) LENGTH: 19
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 21:

Cys Asp Leu Arg Arg Leu Glu Met Tyr Cys Cys Pro Leu Lys Pro Ala
 1 5 10 15

Lys Ser Glu

20 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 22:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

25 (A) LENGTH: 6
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 22:

Cys Cys Phe Arg Ser Cys
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 23:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 5
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 23:

Cys Phe Arg Ser Cys
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 24:

10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 7
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

15 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 24:

Cys Ala Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 25:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

20 (A) LENGTH: 9
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(ix) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa represents an iodinated tyrosine.

25 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 25:

Thr Xaa Cys Ala Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 26:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 7
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 26:

Cys Gly Pro Glu Thr Leu Cys
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 27:

10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 19
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

15 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 27:

Cys Gly Tyr Gly Ser Ser Ser Arg Arg Cys Pro Gln Thr Gly Ile Val
 1 5 10 15

Asp Glu Cys

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 28:

20 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 13
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

25 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 28:

Cys Gly Asp Arg Gly Phe Tyr Phe Asn Lys Pro Thr Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 29:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 11
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 29:

Cys Cys Pro Leu Lys Pro Ala Lys Ser Ala Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 30:

10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 19
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

15 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 30:

Cys Asp Leu Arg Arg Leu Glu Met Tyr Ala Pro Leu Lys Pro Ala
 1 5 10 15
 Lys Ser Ala Cys

20 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 31:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

25 (A) LENGTH: 16
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 31:

Asp Leu Ala Leu Leu Glu Thr Tyr Ser Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 32:

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(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 13
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 32:

Cys Gly Gly Glu Leu Val Asp Thr Leu Gln Phe Val Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 33:**10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:**

(A) LENGTH: 10
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

15 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 33:

Cys Asp Leu Cys Leu Leu Glu Thr Tyr Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 34:**(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:**

20 (A) LENGTH: 16
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 34:

25 Cys Cys Phe Arg Ser Cys Asp Asp Leu Ala Leu Leu Glu Thr Tyr Cys
 1 5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 35:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 17
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 35:

Cys Asp Leu Cys Leu Leu Glu Thr Tyr Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser
 1 5 10 15
 Glu

10 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 36:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

15 (A) LENGTH: 15
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 36:

Glu Ala Leu Leu Glu Thr Tyr Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 37:

20 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 14
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

25 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 37:

Ala Leu Leu Glu Lys Tyr Cys Ala Lys Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 38:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 9
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 38:

Ala Pro Ser Thr Cys Glu Tyr Lys Ala
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 39:

10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 15
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

15 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 39:

Cys Cys Phe Arg Ser Cys Asp Leu Cys Leu Leu Glu Thr Tyr Cys
 1 5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 40:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

20 (A) LENGTH: 10
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 40:

25 Cys Cys Tyr Arg Pro Ser Glu Thr Leu Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 41:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 18
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 41:

Cys Arg Pro Cys Ser Arg Val Ser Arg Arg Ser Arg Gly Ile Val Glu
 1 5 10 15
 Glu Cys

10 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 42:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

15 (A) LENGTH: 12
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 42:

Cys Gly Asp Arg Gly Phe Tyr Phe Ser Arg Pro Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 43:

20 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 9
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

25 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 43:

Cys Cys Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu Cys
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 44:

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(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 16
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 44:

Cys Asp Leu Cys Leu Leu Glu Thr Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu Cys
 1 5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 45:**10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:**

(A) LENGTH: 14
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

15 **(ix) OTHER INFORMATION:** Xaa represents the D-isomer of tyrosine.

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 45:

Ala Leu Leu Glu Thr Xaa Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5 10

20 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 46:**(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:**

25 (A) LENGTH: 10
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(ix) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa represents the D-isomer of tyrosine.

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 46:

30 Thr Xaa Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 47:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 16
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(ix) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa represents the D-isomer of tyrosine.

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 47:

10 Cys Ala Leu Leu Glu Thr Xaa Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu Cys
 1 5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 48:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

15 (A) LENGTH: 12
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(ix) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa represents the D-isomer of tyrosine.

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 48:

20 Cys Thr Xaa Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 49:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

25 (A) LENGTH: 11
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(ix) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa represents the D-isomer of tyrosine.

30 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 49:

Cys Thr Xaa Cys Ala Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 50:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 9
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(ix) OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa represents the D-isomer of tyrosine.

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 50:

10 Thr Xaa Cys Ala Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 51:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

15 (A) LENGTH: 8
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 51:

Thr Tyr Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys
 1 5

20 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 52:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

25 (A) LENGTH: 8
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 52:

Leu Glu Thr Tyr Cys Ala Thr Pro
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 53:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 8
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 53:

Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 54:

10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 8
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

15 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 54:

Tyr Cys Ala Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 55:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

20 (A) LENGTH: 5
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 55:

25 Tyr Cys Ala Pro Ala
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 56:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

30 (A) LENGTH: 6
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 60:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 11
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 60:

Cys Thr Tyr Thr Ala Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu Cys
 1 5 10

10 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 61:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

15 (A) LENGTH: 15
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 61:

Cys Ala Leu Leu Glu Thr Tyr Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu Cys
 1 5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 62:

20 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 18
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

25 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 62:

Cys Arg Arg Leu Glu Met Tyr Cys Ala Pro Leu Lys Pro Ala Lys Ser
 1 5 10 15

Ala Cys

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 63:

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(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 14
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 63:

Cys Gly Tyr Gly Ser Ser Ser Arg Arg Ala Pro Gln Thr Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 64:**10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:**

(A) LENGTH: 11
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

15 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 64:

Cys Tyr Phe Asn Lys Pro Thr Gly Tyr Gly Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 65:**(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:**

20 (A) LENGTH: 20
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 65:

25 Cys Tyr Phe Asn Lys Pro Thr Gly Tyr Gly Ser Ser Ser Arg Arg Ala
 1 5 10 15
 Pro Gln Thr Cys
 20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 66:**30 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:**

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(A) LENGTH: 12
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

5 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 66:

Cys Lys Pro Thr Gly Tyr Gly Ser Ser Ser Arg Cys
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 67:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

10 (A) LENGTH: 16
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 67:

15 Arg Arg Leu Glu Met Tyr Cys Ala Pro Leu Lys Pro Ala Lys
 1 5 10

Ser Ala
 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 68:

20 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 10
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

25 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 68:

Thr Tyr Cys Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 69:

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(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

5 (A) LENGTH: 11
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 69:

Glu Pro Tyr Cys Ala Pro Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 70:**10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:**

(A) LENGTH: 9
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

15 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 70:

Thr Tyr Cys Ala Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 71:**(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:**

20 (A) LENGTH: 14
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 71:

25 Ala Leu Leu Glu Thr Tyr Ser Ala Thr Pro Ala Lys Ser Glu
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 72:**(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:**

30 (A) LENGTH: 11
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: N/A
 (D) TOPOLOGY: N/A

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Claims

1. Use of IGF-I, a functional derivative of IGF-I, IGF-II or a functional derivative of IGF-II in the preparation of a medicament for promoting survival of retinal neuronal cells at risk of dying.
2. The use of claim 1, wherein said medicament further comprises an effective amount of a substance which produces an additive and/or a synergistic effect.
3. The use of claim 1, wherein said neuronal cells are photoreceptor cells, amacrine cells, horizontal cells, bipolar cells, or ganglion cells.
4. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative of IGF-I is IGF-I(4-70).
5. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative of IGF-II is IGF-II(54-67).
6. The use of claim 1, wherein one or more of said substances is a polypeptide which has been chemically modified to increase its efficacy.
7. The use of claim 6, wherein said modification comprises increasing said polypeptide's lipophilicity.
8. The use of claim 6, wherein said modification comprises glycosylation.
9. The use of claim 6, wherein said modification comprises increasing the net positive charge on said polypeptide.

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10. The use of claim 1, wherein said medicament further comprises a neurotransmitter enhancers and/or derivative thereof.

11. A solution of IGF-I or IGF-II, or a functional derivative thereof, in an excipient for ophthalmic administration, said solution being contained within a chemically inert vessel which is closed at one end with a means for the transfer of drops of the solution from said vessel to an eye of a patient.

12. A solution of IGF-I or IGF-II, or a functional derivative thereof, in an excipient for ophthalmic administration, said solution being contained within a chemically inert vessel which is implanted into a patient for the transfer of the solution from said vessel to an eye of said patient.

13. The solution of claim 11, wherein said functional derivative of IGF-I is IGF-I(4-70).

14. The solution of claim 11, wherein said functional derivative of IGF-II is IGF-II(54-67).

15. An ointment containing IGF-I, IGF-II, or a functional derivative thereof, in an excipient for ophthalmic administration.

16. The ointment of claim 15, wherein said functional derivative of IGF-I is IGF-I(4-70).

17. The ointment of claim 15, wherein said functional derivative of IGF-II is IGF-II(54-67).

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18. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CALLETYCATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:17, the amino acid sequence CTYCATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:57), the amino acid sequence CEPYCAPPKSEC (SEQ ID NO:58), and the amino acid sequence CTYCAPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:59), wherein the N-terminal cysteine is connected to the C-terminal cysteine by a covalent bond.

19. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CALLETdYCATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:47), the amino acid sequence CTdYCATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:48), and the amino acid sequence CTdYCAPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:49), wherein the N-terminal cysteine is connected to the C-terminal cysteine by a covalent bond.

20. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CTYTAPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:60), the amino acid sequence CALLETYATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:61), the amino acid sequence CRRLEMYCAPLKPAKSAC (SEQ ID NO:62), the amino acid sequence CGYGSSRRAPQTC (SEQ ID NO:63), the amino acid sequence CYFNKPTGYGC (SEQ ID NO:64), the amino acid sequence CYFNKPTGYGSSRRAPQTC (SEQ ID NO:65), and the amino acid sequence CKPTGYGSSSRC (SEQ ID NO:66), wherein the N-terminal cysteine is connected to the C-terminal cysteine by a covalent bond.

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21. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CDLRRLEMYC (SEQ ID NO:19), the amino acid sequence
5 CCFRSCDLRRLEMYC (SEQ ID NO:20), the amino acid sequence CCFRSC (SEQ ID NO:22), and the amino acid sequence CFRSC (SEQ ID NO:23), wherein said peptide is cyclized by a covalent bond between two residues of said peptide.

22. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional
10 derivative is a substantially pure peptide selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence TYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:68), and the amino acid sequence RRLEMYCAPLKPAKSA (SEQ ID NO:67).

23. The use of claim 22, wherein residues
15 flanking said amino acid sequence are homologous to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-I, or to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-II.

24. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure cyclized peptide
20 consisting essentially of the amino acid sequences CGCELVDALQFVC (SEQ ID NO:18) and CCFRSCDLRRLEMYC (SEQ ID NO:20), wherein said cyclized peptide comprises at least one covalent bond between two residues of said cyclized peptide.

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25. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CGCELVDALQFVC (SEQ ID NO:18), the amino acid sequence CDLRRLEMYCCPLKPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:21), the amino acid sequence CGPETLC (SEQ ID NO:26), the amino acid sequence CGYGSSSRRCPTGIVDEC (SEQ ID NO:27), the amino acid sequence CGDRGFYFNKPTC (SEQ ID NO:28), the amino acid sequence CCPLKPAKSAC (SEQ ID NO:29), and the amino acid sequence CDLRRLEMYAPLKPAKSAC (SEQ ID NO:30), wherein the N-terminal cysteine is connected to the C-terminal cysteine by a covalent bond.

26. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CGGELVDTLQFVC (SEQ ID NO:32), the amino acid sequence CCFRSCDDLALLETYC (SEQ ID NO:34), wherein said peptide is cyclized by a covalent bond between two residues of said peptide.

27. The use of claim 26, wherein residues flanking said amino acid sequence are homologous to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-I, or to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-II.

28. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure cyclized peptide consisting essentially of the amino acid sequences CGGELVDTLQFVC (SEQ ID NO:32) and CCFRSCDLCLLETYC (SEQ ID NO:39), wherein said cyclized peptide comprises at least one covalent bond between two residues of said cyclized peptide.

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29. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CDLCILETYC (SEQ ID NO:33), the amino acid sequence CDLCILETYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:35), the amino acid sequence CCYRPSETLC (SEQ ID NO:40), CRPCSRVSRRSRGIVEEC (SEQ ID NO:41), CGDRGFYFSRPC (SEQ ID NO:42), CCTPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:43), and CDLCILETATPAKSEC (SEQ ID NO:44), wherein the N-terminal cysteine is connected to the C-terminal cysteine by a covalent bond.

30. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence CATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:53), YCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:54), YCAPA (SEQ ID NO:55), TYCAPA (SEQ ID NO:56), CAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:24), EALLETYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:36), and APSTCEYKA (SEQ ID NO:38).

31. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence YFNKPTGYGSSSRRAPQT (SEQ ID NO:3), the amino acid sequence YGSSSRRAPQT (SEQ ID NO:4), the amino acid sequence APLKPAKSA (SEQ ID NO:5), the amino acid sequence YFNKPTGYG (SEQ ID NO:6), the amino acid sequence SSSRRAPQT (SEQ ID NO:10), the amino acid sequence PTGYGSSSRRAPQT (SEQ ID NO:11), and the amino acid sequence KPTGYGSSSR (SEQ ID NO:12).

32. The use of claim 31, wherein residues flanking said amino acid sequence are homologous to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-I, or to the naturally occurring sequence of IGF-II.

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33. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence YFNKPTGYGSSRRAPQT-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO:7), the
5 amino acid sequence SSSRRAPQT-NH₂, the amino acid sequence GIVDECC(Acm)FRSCLDRRL-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO:9), the amino acid sequence EPYCAPPKSE (SEQ ID NO:69), the amino acid sequence TYCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:70), the amino acid sequence ALLETYSATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:71), the amino acid
10 sequence ETQCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:72), and the amino acid sequence GAELVDALQFYSGDRGFYFNKPTG (SEQ ID NO:73).

34. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino
15 acid sequence ALLETdYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:45), the amino acid sequence TdYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:46), and the amino acid sequence TdYCAPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:50).

35. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a substantially pure peptide selected from
20 the group consisting of the amino acid sequence ALLETYCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:13), the amino acid sequence TPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:14), and the amino acid sequence SRVSRRSR (SEQ ID NO:15).

36. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional
25 derivative contains between 5 and 40 amino acids.

37. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is iodinated.

38. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a cyclic peptide.

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39. The use of claim 38, wherein said cyclic peptide consists essentially of 5-40 amino acid residues.

40. The use of claim 39, wherein said cyclic peptide consists essentially of 6-25 amino acid residues.

5 41. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a retro-inverso peptide.

42. The use of claim 1, wherein said functional derivative is a scrambled peptide.

43. A substantially pure peptide, wherein said
10 peptide comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence ALLETYSATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:71), the amino acid sequence ETQCATPAKSE (SEQ ID NO:72), and the amino acid sequence GAELVDALQFYSGDRGFYFNKPTG (SEQ ID NO:73).

Figure 1

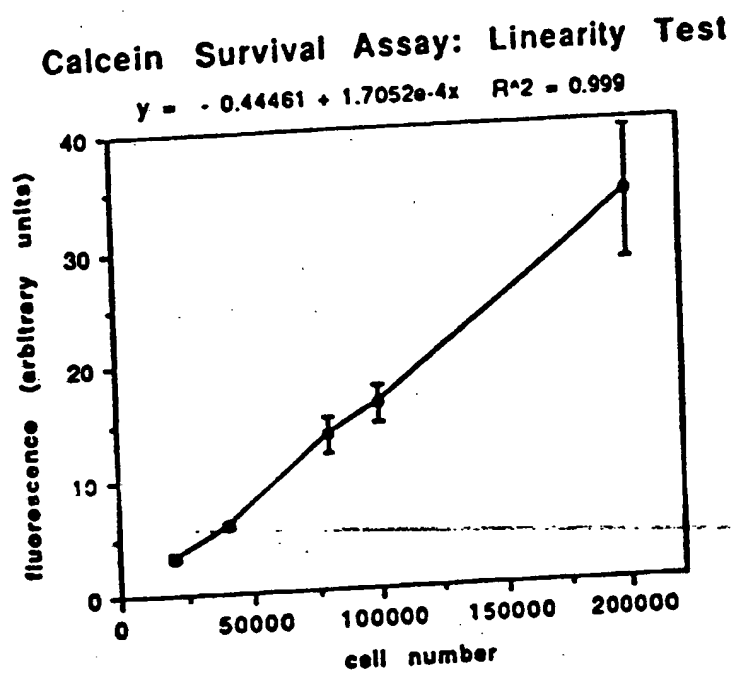


Figure 2

**Calcein Survival Assay: Effect of IGF-I (100nM)
on Avian Retinal Neuronal Cultures**

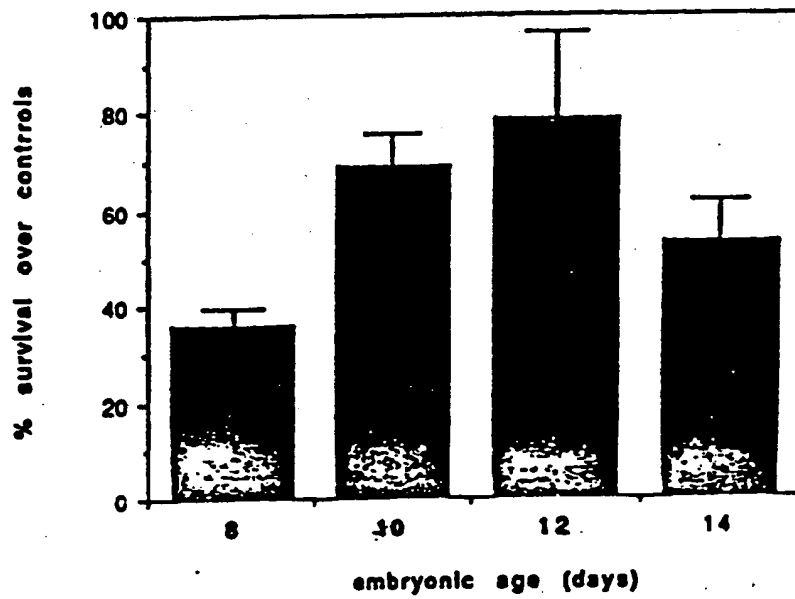


Figure 3

Calcein Survival Assay: Dose Response Curves
IGF-I Effect on E10 Avian Retinal Neuronal Cultures

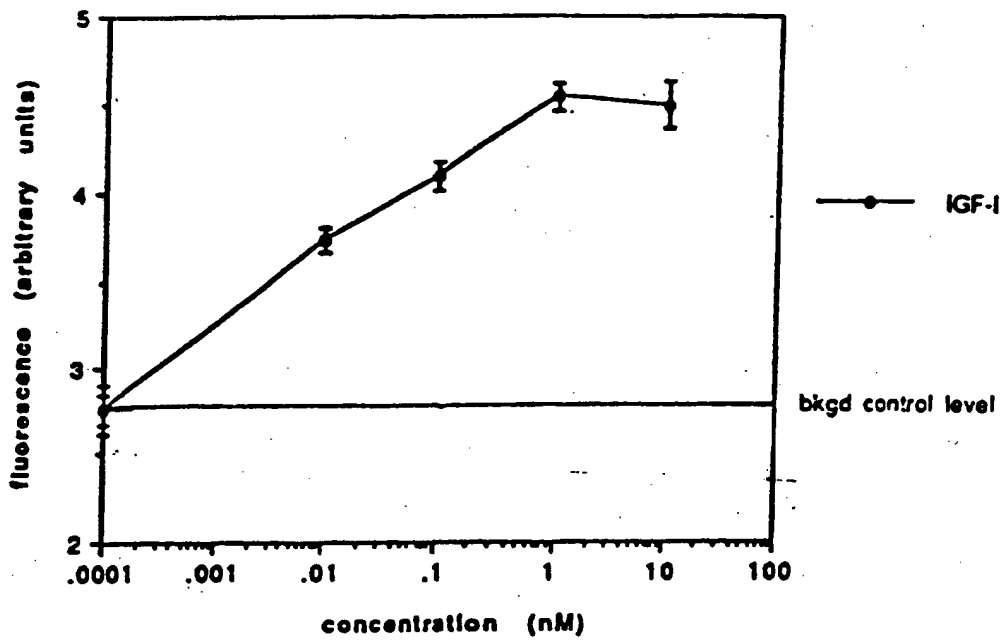


Figure 4

Calcein Survival Assay: Dose Response Curves
IGF-I Effect on PNd6 Rat Retinal Neuronal Cultures

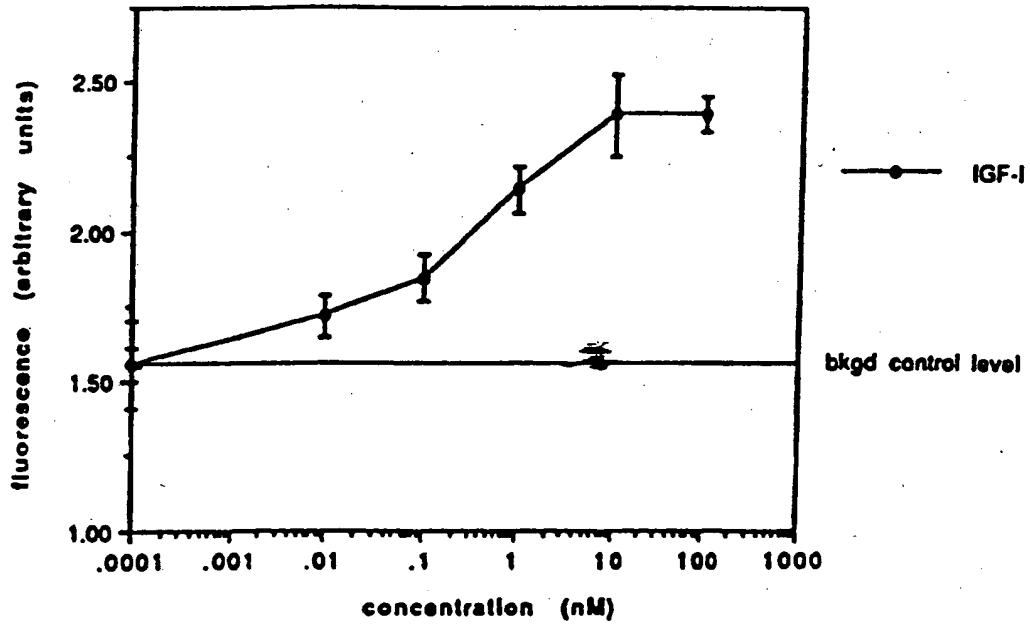


Figure 5

Axonal Regenerative Effect of IGF-I on Retinal Neurons

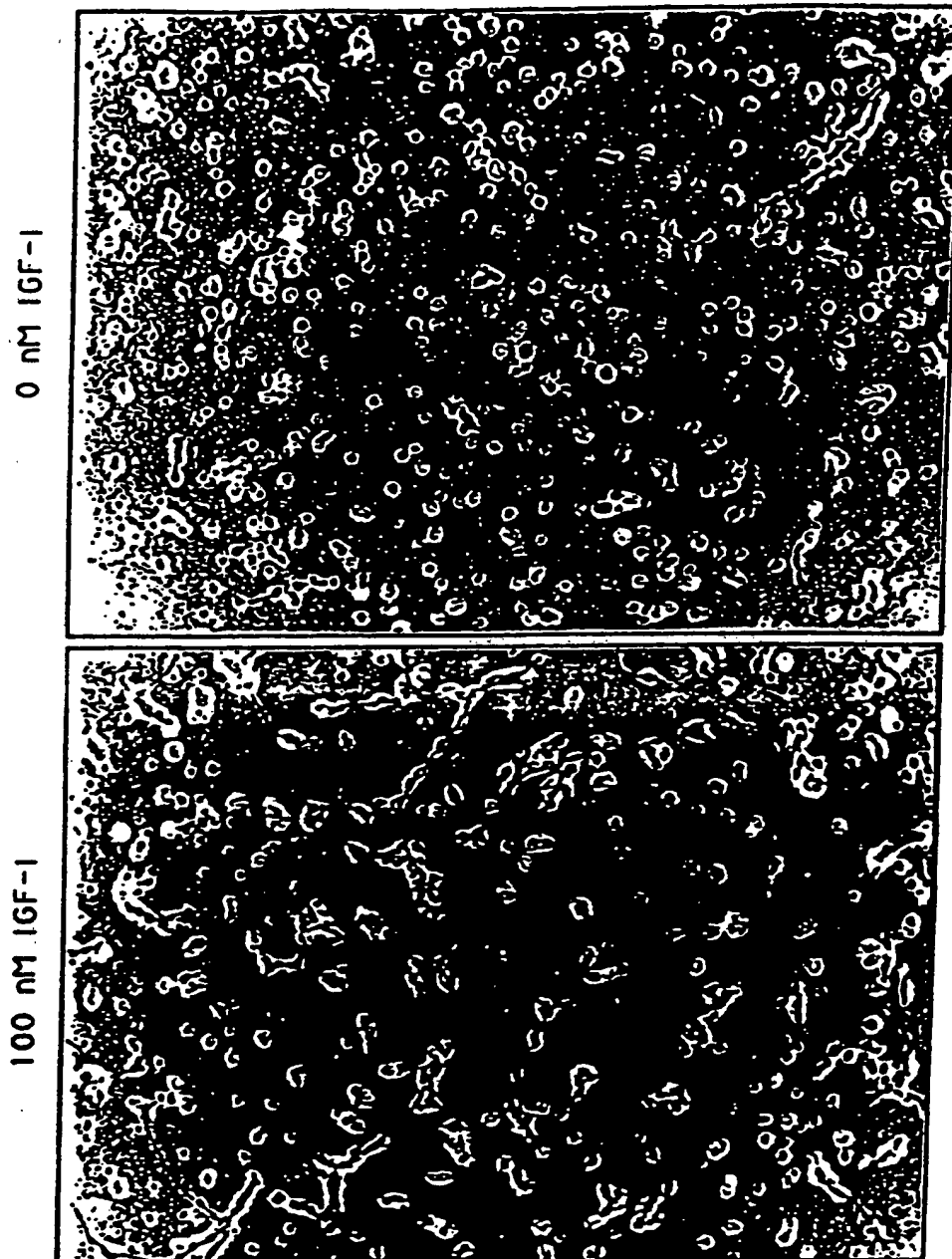
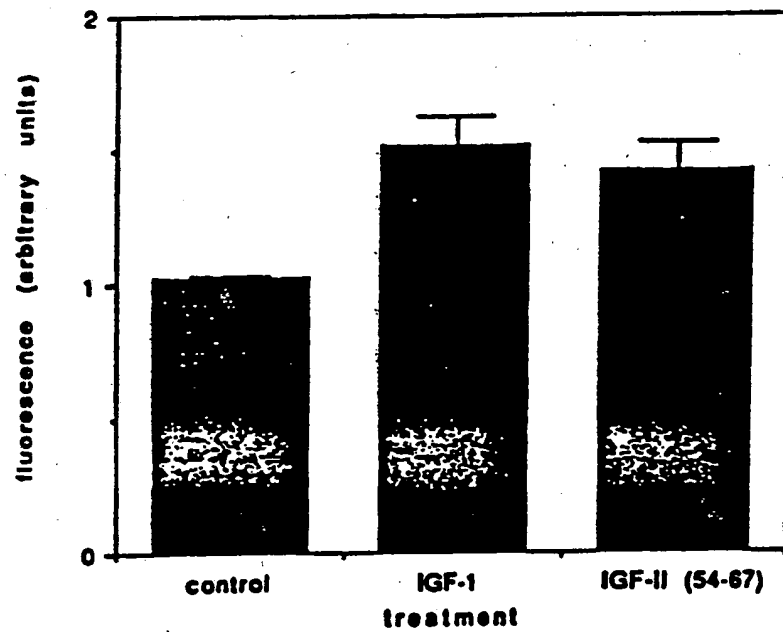


Figure 6

**Calcein Survival Assay: Rat Retinal Neuronal Cultures
Effect of IGF-I and IGF-II (54-67)**

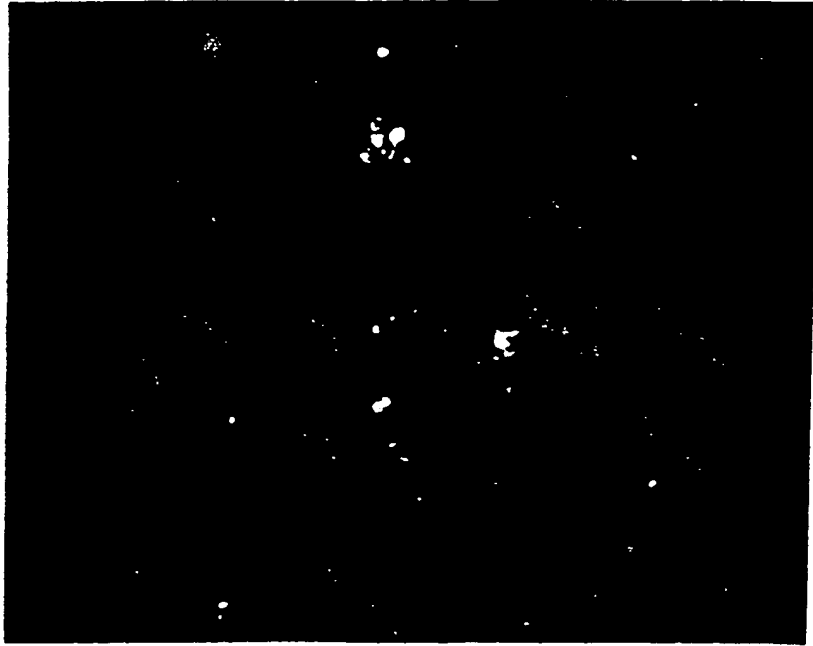


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Figure 7

Effect of IGF-I on the Photoreceptor Subpopulation of Post Natal Rat Retinal Neuronal Cultures

0 nM IGF-I



100 nM IGF-I

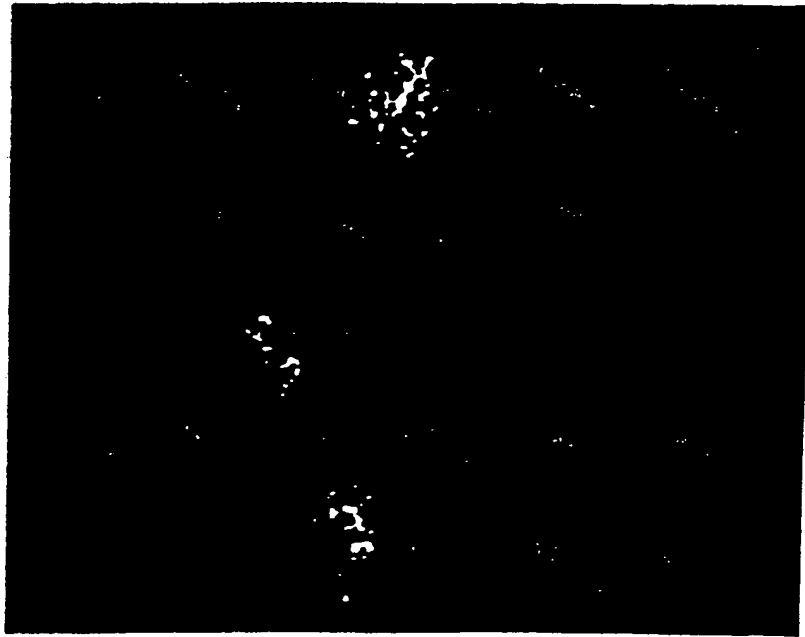
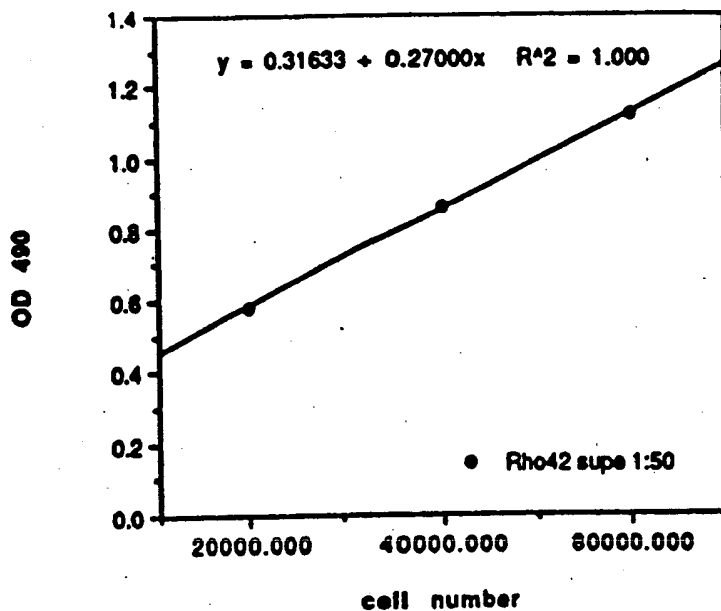
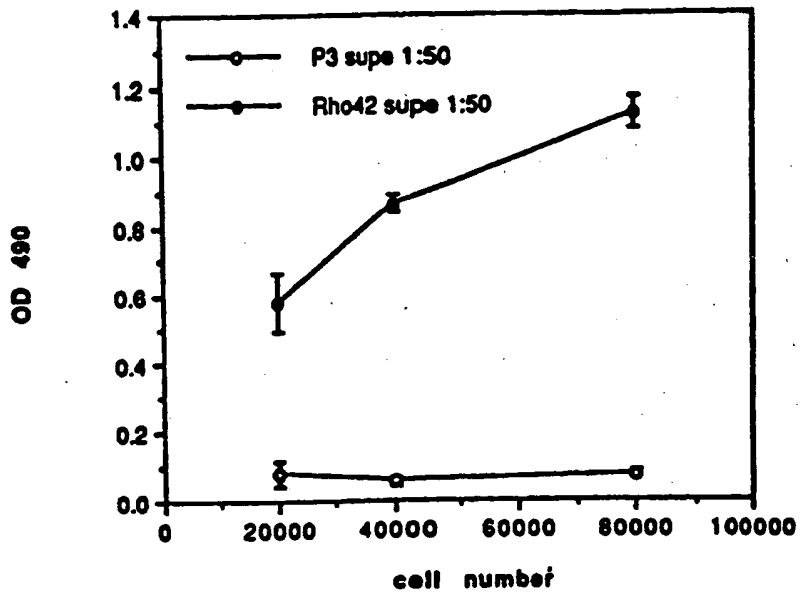


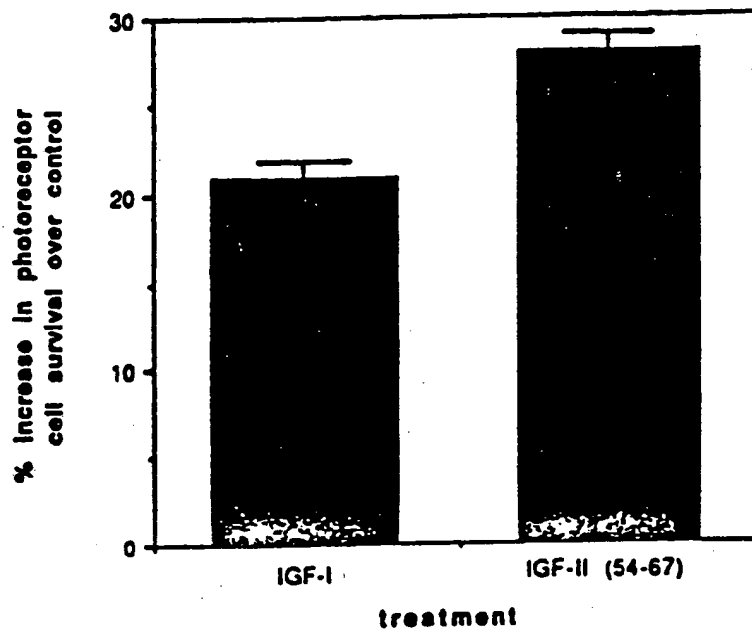
Figure 8

Linearity Test : Rho42 ELISA
on Postnatal Rat Retinal Neuronal Cultures



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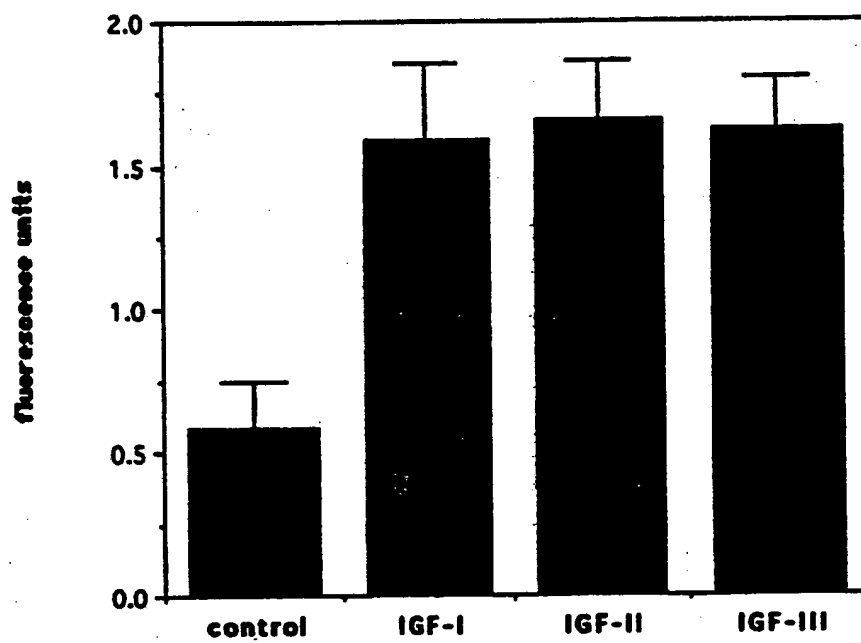
Figure 9

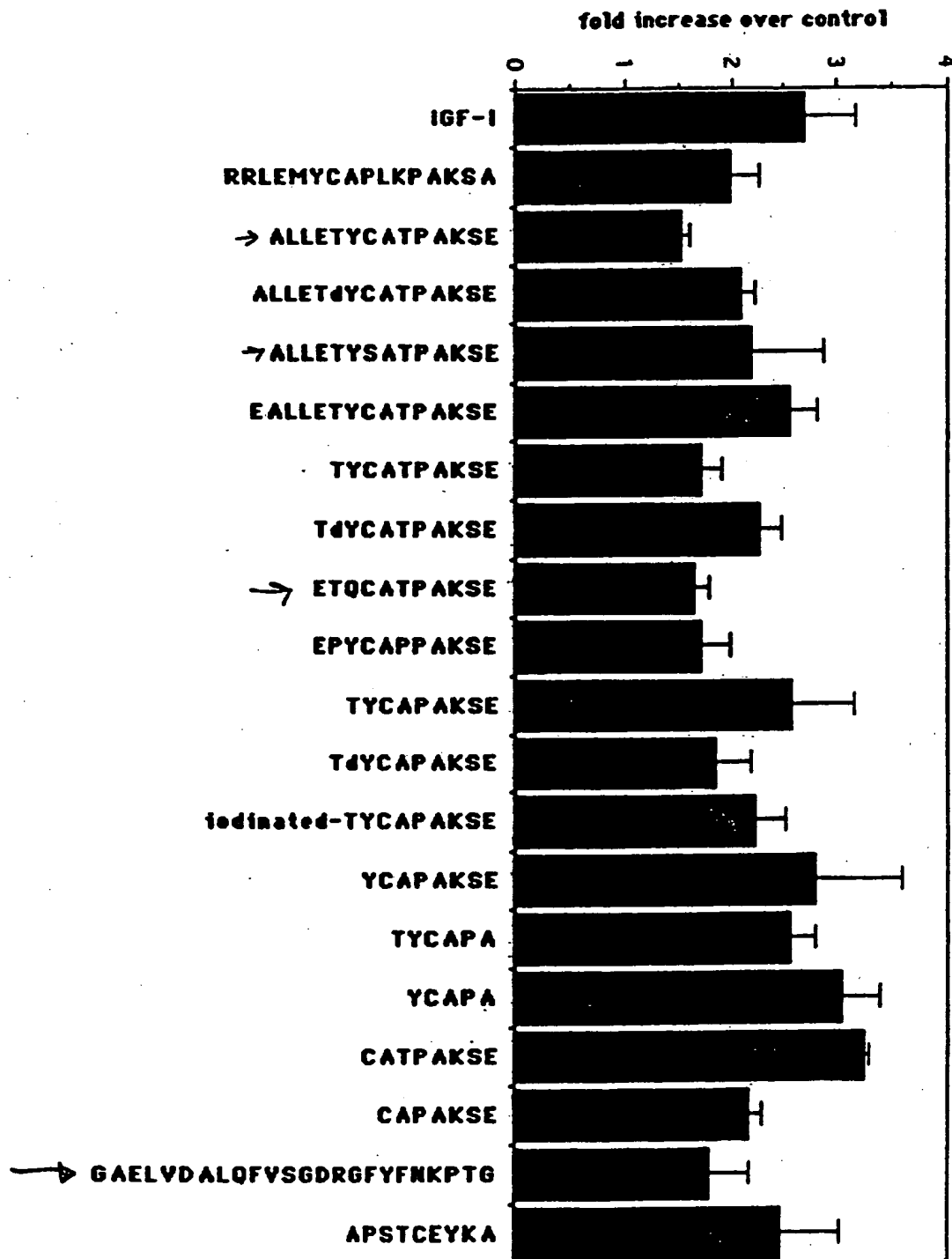
IGF-I and IGF-II (54-67) Effect on the Photoreceptor Subpopulation of Rat Retinal Neuronal Cultures

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Figure 10

Effect of IGF-I, IGF-II and IGF-III on Retinal Neuronal Survival





Effect of Linear Peptide Derivatives of IGFs on Retinal Neuronal Survival

Figure 11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US92/09443

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(5) :A61K 37/02 37/26, 37/36; C07K 5/00

US CL :514/9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15; 530/325, 326, 327

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 514/9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15; 530/325, 326, 327

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

APS (IGF-I, IGF-II and neuronal)
Seq Search (Sequences cited in the claims).

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP, A, 0,227,619 (Vicki Rublan Sara) 01 July 1987. See the entire document particularly abstract, page 2, lines 24-49 and claims 1-5.	1-43
Y	Acta Physiol. Scand., Volume 126, issued 1986, H.A. Hansson "Evidence indicating trophic importance of IGF-1 In regenerating peripheral nerves" pages 609-614. See the entire document particularly abstract and the last paragraph (pages 613-614).	1-43

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*T	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search 08 FEBRUARY 1993	Date of mailing of the international search report 22 FEB 1993
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. NOT APPLICABLE	Authorized officer FATEMEH T. MOEZIE Telephone No. (703) 308-0196

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